



BARNSELY
SIXTH FORM
COLLEGE

PROSPECTUS

Contents

Welcome	3
Your future is bright/entry requirements	4
The Year 11 application process	5
Sixth Form College life	6-7
Enrichment	8
Barnsley Sports Academy	9
Supporting you	10
Money matters and free bus services	11
Advice from our students	12
Student Awards	13
Keeping you and your parents/carers informed	14
High Flyers Programme	15
Why choose Barnsley Sixth Form College?	16
Attainment 8 and entry requirements	87
Application FAQs	88
How to find us	89

Our courses

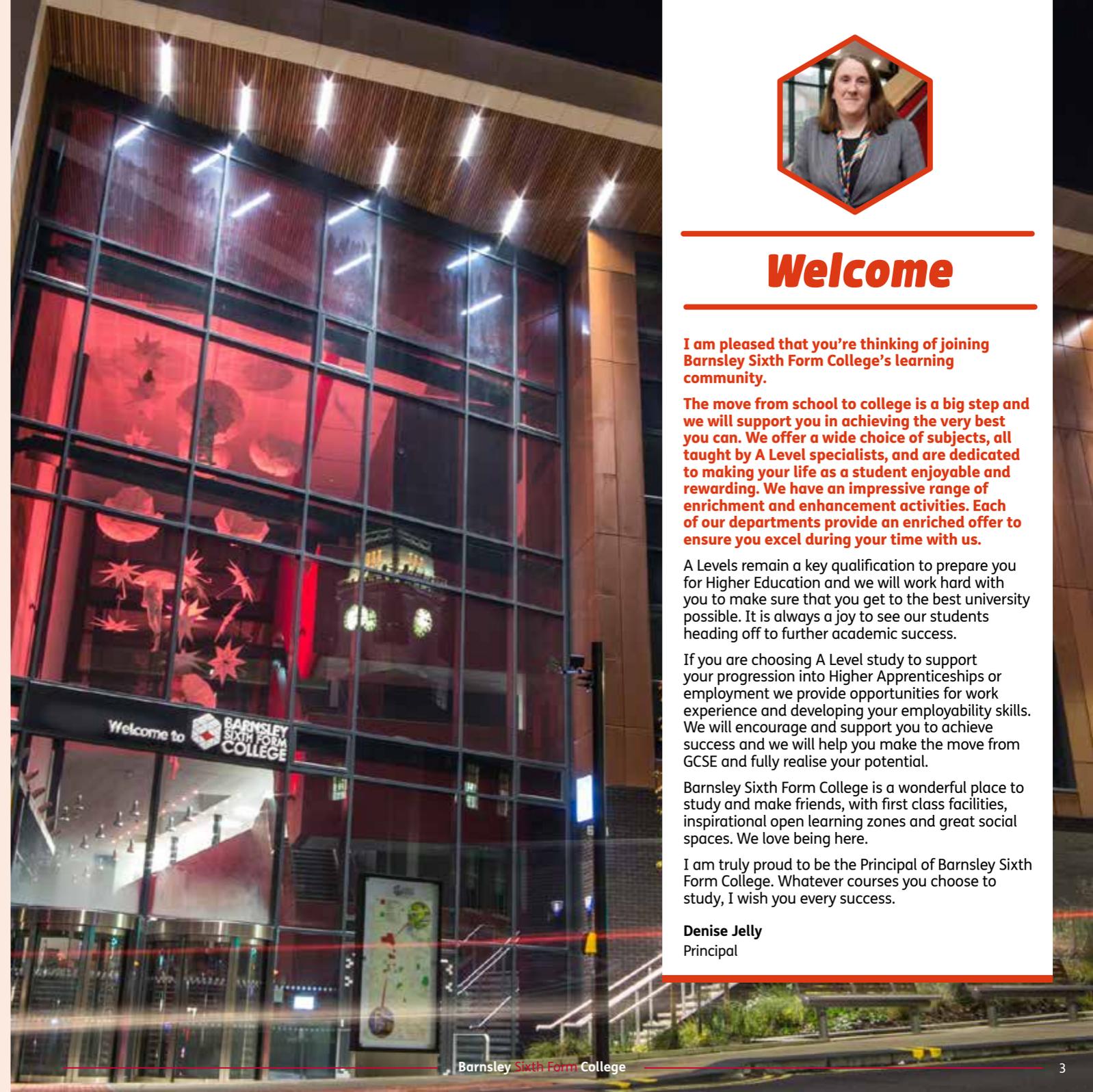
Art (Fine Art)	18	Information Technology (IT).....	54
Biology	20	Law	56
Business	22	Mathematics.....	58
Chemistry	24	Further Mathematics	60
Computer Science	28	Media Studies	62
Criminology	30	Medical Science	64
Drama and Theatre Studies	32	Physical Education (PE)	66
Economics	34	Physics	68
English Language	36	Politics	72
English Language and Literature	38	Psychology	74
English Literature	40	Religion, Philosophy and Ethics	76
Film Studies	42	Sociology	78
French	46	Spanish	80
Geography	48	Core Maths	82
Health and Social Care	50	Extended Project Qualification - Level 3	84
History	52		

OPEN DAYS
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



Welcome

I am pleased that you're thinking of joining Barnsley Sixth Form College's learning community.

The move from school to college is a big step and we will support you in achieving the very best you can. We offer a wide choice of subjects, all taught by A Level specialists, and are dedicated to making your life as a student enjoyable and rewarding. We have an impressive range of enrichment and enhancement activities. Each of our departments provide an enriched offer to ensure you excel during your time with us.

A Levels remain a key qualification to prepare you for Higher Education and we will work hard with you to make sure that you get to the best university possible. It is always a joy to see our students heading off to further academic success.

If you are choosing A Level study to support your progression into Higher Apprenticeships or employment we provide opportunities for work experience and developing your employability skills. We will encourage and support you to achieve success and we will help you make the move from GCSE and fully realise your potential.

Barnsley Sixth Form College is a wonderful place to study and make friends, with first class facilities, inspirational open learning zones and great social spaces. We love being here.

I am truly proud to be the Principal of Barnsley Sixth Form College. Whatever courses you choose to study, I wish you every success.

Denise Jelly
Principal

Your future is bright

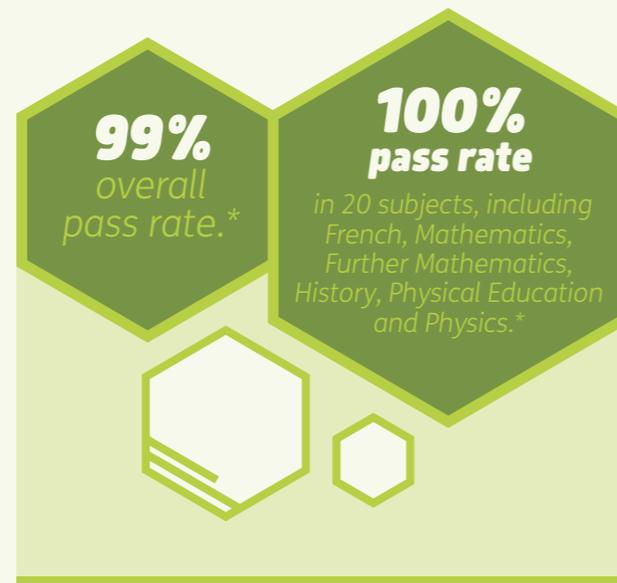
Subjects we offer:

Art (Fine Art)
Biology
Business
Chemistry
Computer Science
Criminology
Drama and Theatre Studies
Economics
English Language
English Language and Literature
English Literature
Film Studies
French
Geography
Health and Social Care
History
Information Technology (IT)
Law
Mathematics
Further Mathematics
Media Studies
Medical Science
Physical Education (PE)
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
Sociology
Spanish

We also offer the following additional qualifications:

- Core Maths
- Extended Project Qualification

*2019 results



Entry requirements

We are confident that we have a range of A Level courses suited to students of all abilities.

We generally ask for a GCSE point score of 5 or above to study a two-year A Level programme. This will ideally include a 5 or above in English and maths. If you have a GCSE point score between 4 and 5 you can access certain A Level subjects.

You can see details of how to work out your GCSE point score on page 87.

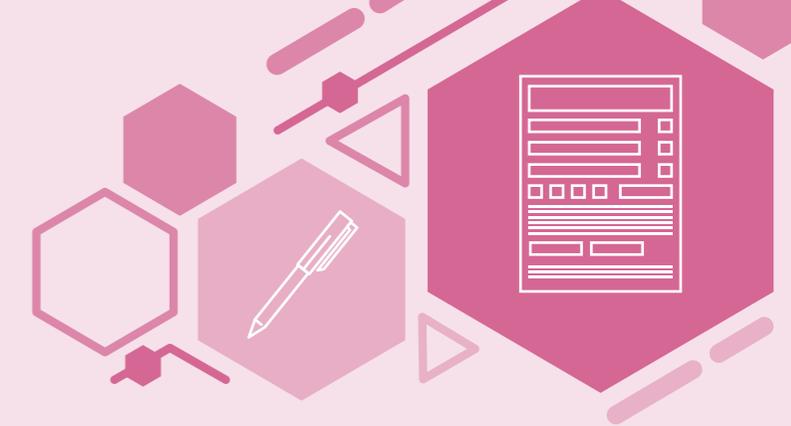
We will discuss entry requirements with you at interview so please come and talk to us!

Some subjects have their own additional entry requirements; please see the relevant subject pages for details.

Students who do not initially meet the entry requirements for their chosen subjects on leaving school can enrol to Access to A Levels, our three-year A Levels programme. To study our three-year A Level programme you need to have achieved a minimum of five GCSEs at Grade 4.

See page 87 for more information on Access to A Levels.

The Year 11 application process



- Step 1 - Search**
Look for a course in this prospectus, on your school's application system or online at www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk
- Step 2 - Visit**
Come along to one of our Open Days to find out more about the courses, meet tutors and take a tour of our building. You can apply to study with us without coming to an Open Day but we would recommend visiting us if you can. The dates for our 2019/20 events are **Wednesday 16 October, Saturday 23 November and Thursday 30 January.**
- Step 3 - Apply**
You can apply from the beginning of October 2019. There are three ways to apply. You can:
 - Complete the application form in the back of this prospectus.
 - Apply online at: www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk
 - Apply via your school's application system.Your careers adviser at school will be able to help with your application should you need it.
- Step 4 - Interview**
After you've applied you will be invited in to College to attend an interview with a tutor. Interviews happen on Wednesday afternoons and you will receive a letter advising you of the date and time that yours will take place. We work closely with schools and they are aware of our interview process so there should be no problem in taking time out of classes. The interview is nothing to worry about; it's very informal and is a great chance for you to ask any questions you might have about your choice of A Levels.
- Step 5 - Your offer**
After your interview you will be offered a place on your chosen programme, usually conditional depending on your GCSE results, or referred to a more appropriate course.
- Step 6 - Summer School**
All A Level applicants will be invited to our Step up to Sixth Form taster day in June 2020. This full-day session will give you a chance to meet some of your fellow students and tutors and get a taste of life at Barnsley Sixth Form College.
- Step 7 - Enrolment**
An invitation and enrolment pack will be sent to you in early August 2020 giving you all the information you need ready to enrol at the end of August.

If you have any questions about the application process, our Admissions Team is here to help.

You can reach the team on
☎ 01226 216 106 or
✉ interviews@barnsley.ac.uk

Sixth Form College life

Being a student at Barnsley Sixth Form College is about much more than just your classes. Studying here is different to school; there are no bells, no uniforms and you'll call your tutors by their first names. You'll be treated as an adult and really start to develop your own learning style.

You will also have the opportunity to get involved in a range of activities, from the Students' Union and Enterprise to Student Voice and Enrichment.

Tutorials

When you start your A Levels you will be allocated a designated Academic Coach and Personal Progress Mentor (PPM) to guide you through your time with us and help you reach your potential. They will monitor your progress against your target grades in all subjects, give pastoral and careers guidance and help you with study skills and UCAS applications.

Student Voice

Do you want to represent the opinions of your fellow classmates? You can become a student representative and attend forums to voice student opinions and potentially make changes to your course and College if necessary.

Studying

As a Barnsley Sixth Form College student you can access a wide range of books and journals as well as computers, printing and photocopying in the Nucleus. You will get a chance to see these facilities when you visit us on our Open Days.

After A Levels – university and careers

We want all our students to continue achieving their potential after leaving Barnsley Sixth Form College so we provide guidance and research opportunities on career options and university applications. We arrange a programme of information sessions each year, including talks from different universities, advice on student finance and completing UCAS applications and visits to universities and UCAS conventions. We also provide career advice on Higher Apprenticeships for students choosing this route.

Equality and Diversity

We celebrate the diversity of people who learn and work in the College. We are opposed to any harassment or discrimination arising from: race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age, disability, religion, faith or class. We will challenge any inappropriate attitudes or behaviour.



Lisa Norman

Lisa Norman has been a Personal Progress Mentor (PPM) for nine years. She has a first class degree in Occupational Therapy and a Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) qualification.

Lisa said: "I am one of a team of PPMs who work with the Academic Coaches to provide holistic pastoral and academic support. We also work closely with parents and carers to ensure they are kept up-to-date about their son or daughter's progress. Our aim is to help all Barnsley Sixth Form College students to be successful and realise their career and education aspirations whilst enjoying their time here."

Students' Union

The Students' Union (SU) is here to represent, support and advise you on all aspects of student life. When you enrol you'll automatically become a member of the SU which is led by a group of students – the Students' Union Committee – who are elected by you and supported by the SU staff.



There are lots of volunteering opportunities available in the SU and a chance to be part of the student council as well as elected positions on the Committee. Being a part of the SU will help you develop some valuable skills and it looks great on UCAS applications and your CV. The SU is located in the Atrium in the lower ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus.

Enterprise

If you are interested in setting up your own business, we can offer support and guidance. There are opportunities to get involved in a number of different programmes and projects whilst building your skills in communication, team work, problem solving and creativity.

You can contact the Enterprise team on

☎ 01226 216 840

✉ enterprise@barnsley.ac.uk

Timetable

Your own timetable will depend on the subjects you choose to study and will include time for Tutorials and independent study which we call 'Prep'. Below you can see an example of the kind of format your timetable will take.

Example Timetable 2019-20				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Biology 9.00am-10.00am	Directed study 9.00am-10.00am	Prep 9.00am-10.10am	Prep 9.00am-10.10am	Maths 9.00am-10.10am
Break 10.00am-10.15am	Break 10.00am-10.15am	Break 10.10am-10.25am	Break 10.10am-10.25am	Break 10.10am-10.25am
Maths 10.15am-11.15am	Extended Project Qualification (Second year students only) 10.15am-11.15am	Chemistry 10.25am-11.35am	Directed study 10.25am-11.35am	Directed study 10.25am-12.50pm
Chemistry 11.20am-12.20pm	Directed study 11.20am-12.20pm	Biology 11.40am-12.50pm	Extended Project Qualification (Second year students only) 11.40am-12.50pm	
Lunch 12.20pm-1.00pm			Lunch 12.50pm-1.30pm	
Academic Tutorial 1.00pm-1.30pm	Biology 1.00pm-2.00pm	Enrichment Student Societies 12.50pm	Maths 1.30pm-2.40pm	Biology 1.30pm-2.40pm
Directed study 1.35pm-2.35pm	Chemistry 2.05pm-3.05pm		Chemistry 2.45pm-3.55pm	Prep 2.45pm-3.55pm
Prep 2.40pm-3.40pm	Maths 3.10pm-4.10pm			
Finish – 3.40pm	Finish – 4.10pm		Finish – 3.55pm	

ENRICHMENT

Alongside your studies you'll get lots of opportunities to get involved in extra-curricular activities, known as Enrichment. This does just what it promises; it enriches your time at Barnsley Sixth Form College, helps you develop new skills and can really boost your UCAS application and CV. Enrichment usually runs every Wednesday afternoon and is built into your timetable.

Subject specific

Regardless of which A Levels you're studying you can get involved in exciting options including Philosophy Club, the Musical Theatre Society, Running Club or the Debating Society.

Support is available to apply to schemes such as National Citizen Service and university access schemes to help students interested in studying for careers in medicine or dentistry.

Trips, visits and talks

Previous trips have seen our Geography students inspired on a trip to Iceland where they swam in the Blue Lagoon geothermal pool and embarked on the classic Golden Circle tour. This included seeing a geyser, Gullfoss waterfall, the Kerid volcanic crater and Pingvellir – the continental divide between Europe and North America.

English students saw many of the landmarks they wrote about in their Paris anthologies and Film and Media students traced the development of media technology at the National Science and Media Museum. Art students took in the Design Museum, National Gallery, National Portrait Gallery, Tate Britain and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

Politics students visited Parliament and the Supreme Court in Westminster and Psychology students observed attachment behaviour in animals at Chester Zoo.



BARNSLEY SPORTS ACADEMY

If you are a talented athlete with the passion to develop your skills, then Barnsley Sports Academy could be your ideal destination.

The state-of-the-art sports facilities at Honeywell Sports campus include a 3G pitch, a multi-use games area, indoor sports arenas, two gyms, a fitness studio, a physiology laboratory and a spin studio.

Sports Performance Academies include Football, Referees, Rugby Union, Basketball, Netball, Health and Fitness, Individual Athletes and Esports Academy.

Our Sports Academy has an excellent sporting reputation:

- Our male footballers compete at the highest level of College football and finished second in the Komm Mit Copa Maresme Football Tournament.
- Our football second team won the Association of Colleges (AoC) Yorkshire and Humber League and has been promoted to the AoC Championship.
- Our female footballers finished third in the Komm Mit Copa Maresme Football Tournament.
- Our Netball and Basketball Academies compete at the highest level of College sport and have established links with Leeds Rhinos Netball Club and Sheffield Sabres Basketball Club.

We have supported a range of individual athletes to compete in the very highest level sporting competitions:

- Ellie Hawcroft and Betty Cheetham were selected for the English Colleges Football Association national squad.
- Cole Kilner geared up to compete in the IAME International Karting Final in Le Mans, France.
- Yasmin Demircekic skated her way to the National Ice Skating Association's Oxford Open.

For more information on Barnsley Sports Academy visit
🌐 www.barnsley.ac.uk/bsa

You don't have to be studying sport to be a part of our Sports Academy – all students are welcome.



Supporting you

Additional Learning Support (ALS)

We want every student to get the best out of their time with us. If you need any extra help, our ALS team can provide you with a range of support. The team work with students who have:

- Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- Autism or Asperger Syndrome
- ADHD/ADD
- Learning difficulties/disabilities
- Emotional or mental health support needs
- Sensory impairment
- Physical difficulties
- Medical conditions
- Temporary disabilities

The College has more details of the specific support you are entitled to in its local offer:

- 🌐 www.barnsley.ac.uk/als
- ☎ 01226 216 769
- ✉ als@barnsley.ac.uk

Health and wellbeing

Making sure you lead a healthy lifestyle will help you do your best in your studies. We offer confidential advice and a range of health services at our Wellbeing Centre in the Old Mill Lane campus including:

- Contraception and sexual health advice
- STI screening
- Access to psychological therapies to deal with stress, depression and anxiety (IAPT)
- Counselling
- Referrals to Barnsley Stop Smoking Service
- Midwife
- Advice around drug and alcohol issues

You can contact an adviser on:

☎ 01226 216 233

Safeguarding and e-safety

We have dedicated staff to help keep you safe at College, outside of College and online. If you would like to discuss any welfare, safeguarding, child or adult protection issues, please contact:

☎ 01226 216 142

✉ safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk

For e-safety information and advice visit:

🌐 www.thinkuknow.co.uk



GAINSpace mindfulness zone

You can take a well-earned break from your studies to recharge your batteries in our dedicated mindfulness zone, GAINSpace.

GAINSpace is a student-led initiative with a planned programme of activities such as stress busting at exam time, chill and chat sessions, meditation, guitar playing, reading for pleasure, colouring and art activities.

Money Matters

You won't have to pay tuition or exams fees to study A Levels with us if you are aged 16 to 18 on 31 August 2020, if you are 19 or older and looking to study your first full Level 3 qualification or if you receive certain benefits.* To find out more about tuition fees, call our Information Team on: ☎ 01226 216 123.

We know studying can be an expensive time so we offer a range of options to help all our students.

Financial support

Learner Support Fund for students aged 16-18 and 19+.*

If your household income is less than £20,000 you could be eligible for support with travel, food and study programme essentials*. If you have a household income between £20,001 and £35,000 you could be eligible for travel funding.*

You don't have to pay this money back. You can pick up a Learner Support Fund application form from the Student Services area based in the Nucleus learning zone or apply online

🌐 <https://learnersupportfund.barnsley.ac.uk>

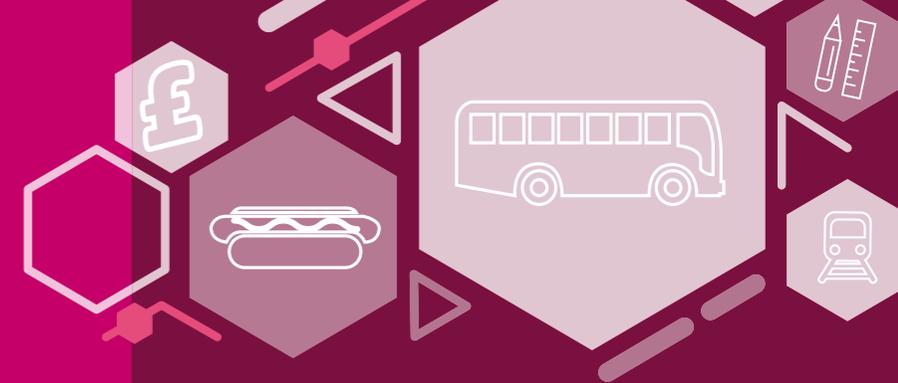
Bursaries

If you are aged between 16 and 18 and in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit in receipt of Income Support, in care or leaving care, you could be eligible for a non-repayable bursary of up to £1,200 per year.*

Food

You can receive an entitlement towards FREE meals at College of up to £15 per week in cashless credits, if your household income is less than £20,000. Speak to Student Services to find out more on: ☎ 01226 216 322 or 267

*A capped amount of funding is applied



FREE bus services!

We realise that getting to and from College might not be very easy for everyone so we have funded four free return bus services for our students. They go to and from the Old Mill Lane campus which is just a few minutes' walk from our Sixth Form College campus.

We run the following free bus routes:

- Rotherham via Ecclesfield and Chapeltown > Old Mill Lane campus
- Shelley > Old Mill Lane campus
- South Elmsall > Old Mill Lane campus via Hemsworth, Fitzwilliam, Crofton and Ryhill
- Stocksbridge via Penistone > Old Mill Lane campus

These bus routes are completely free for our students and operate on a first come, first served basis. Each route operates to ensure students get to College before lessons start and a return service is provided after lessons finish. Please visit our website for details of pick-up points and times:

🌐 www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/student-travel

Advice from our students



Amy Firth

"Keep revising, it's challenging but worth it."
Former Horizon Community College pupil



Sam Whittaker-Coukham

"You get out what you put in so hopefully you'll be proud when you get your results."
Former Rossington All Saints Academy pupil



Mollie Annetts

"Start revising from the beginning."
Former Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School pupil



Maxim Fowler

"Make sure you have a good work ethic and enjoy your studies, as it makes it much easier."
Former Penistone Grammar School pupil



Eleanor Hadfield

"Choose the subjects which are right for you and work hard."
Former Horizon Community College pupil



Connor Wrend

"Keep on top of your work! If you don't, it really does mount up."
Former Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School pupil

Rhys Proud

Now studying an MPhil in Biological Science at the University of Cambridge.

"My favourite element of studying at Barnsley Sixth Form College was the freedom compared to high school and feeling much more in control of my own learning. The staff were really helpful during the application process for Cambridge, providing mock interviews and talking me through the process."

After studying A Levels in Chemistry, Maths and Psychology and an AS Level in Biology, Rhys gained a First Class Psychology degree from the University of Cambridge.



ALUMNI

Student Awards 2019

In 2019, the awards were held in conjunction with Barnsley College. A number of our A Level students were honoured at the ceremony.

Holly Dickinson was the winner of the Barnsley Sixth Form College Student of the Year Award and was described as an 'extremely motivated student, incredibly talented and always there to help her peers'.

Eleanor Hadfield received the Barnsley Sixth Form College Achievement Award for her dedication and hard work and Maxim Fowler won the Barnsley

Sixth Form College Progression Award for performing to an outstanding standard in homework, coursework and contributions to class discussions.

Keegan Rimmington scooped the Societies Award after founding the Gaming Club, which he runs to support the mental health and wellbeing of his peers.

Dominic Jones claimed the Talent United Employer Engagement Award for his excellent contribution at an important regional business event attended by prominent business people and an impressive panel of experts.



Maxim Fowler



Dominic Jones



Keegan Rimmington

Keeping you and your parents/carers informed

Giving you and your parents or guardians regular feedback helps to ensure you stay on track to achieve your goals both at Barnsley Sixth Form College and beyond. You will get regular feedback in class and we will involve parents and guardians at specific times throughout the year.

Parent Portal

Parents can use our Parent Portal to access and track information on students' progress, assessments and attendance. For more information visit

🔗 www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/portal

Opportunities to talk to us

Throughout the academic year we run the following events to support students and parents:

- **Welcome to A Levels** – a good opportunity to ask questions about studying A Levels and find out about how we support students with their aspirations.
- **Two Parents' Monitoring Events** – these events will give parents the opportunity to discuss student progress with teachers.
- **University and Apprenticeship Information Evening** – this event will provide information on the UCAS application process as well as talks from universities on the benefits of a university education and student finance. Apprenticeship providers will also be in attendance to talk through options and the process for students thinking of this growing route.

- **Coursework Information Evening** - this event will outline the coursework process, deadlines and how to support with this important element of some courses.

We believe that communication with home is crucial. As well as these organised events, all students will have named staff that they and their parents can contact for support.



High Flyers Programme

At Barnsley Sixth Form College, we want to identify, encourage and support students who have the potential to progress to a leading university or competitive course. This might mean aiming for a Russell Group university (including Oxbridge); or to study Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine.

Our Academic Ambition group is open to students who arrive at our Sixth Form with strong GCSEs or those who flourish in A Level subjects and are identified by our team as a high achiever.

As part of this group, you will receive the same first-class support and teaching that all of our students do, along with targeted opportunities which promote academic ambition and guide you to your aspirational goal.

We will:

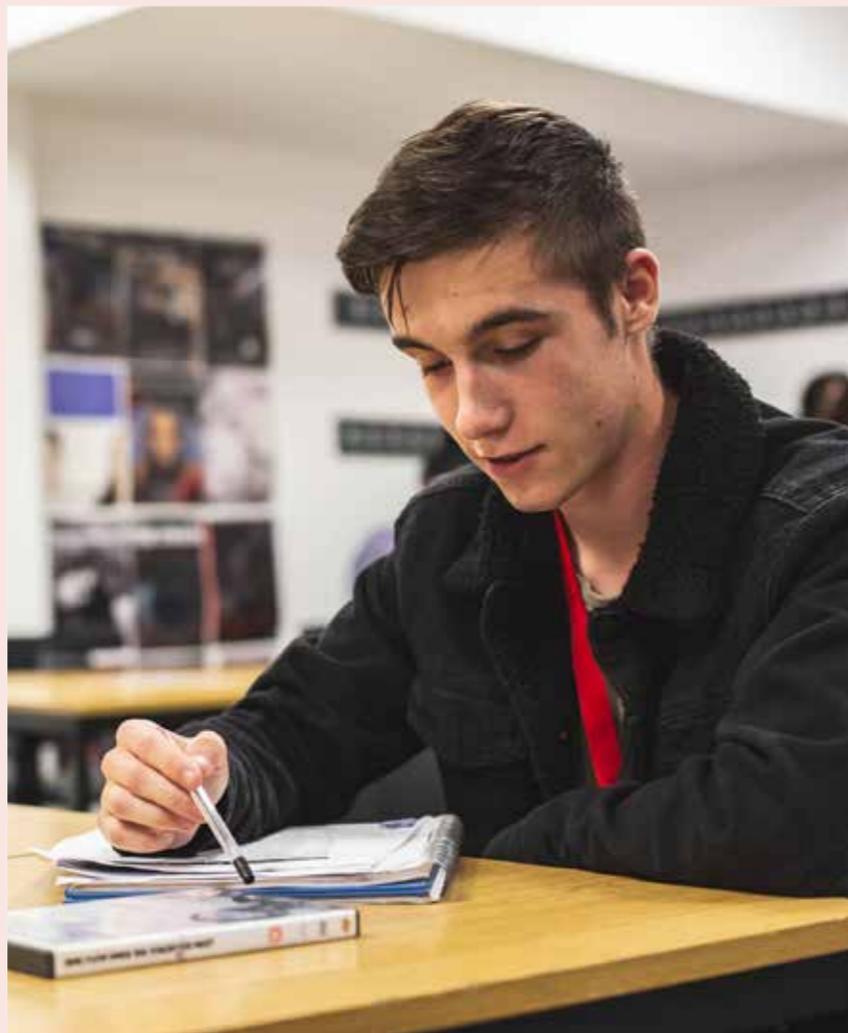
- Encourage and support your application to university outreach schemes, such as Realising Opportunities.
- Organise workshops in Sixth Form delivered by subject specialists, such as the University of Leeds 'Starting Your Health Career: Making the Most of Year 12' workshop.
- Arrange for visiting speakers to give presentations in our EnRich Auditorium, for example the Newcastle University 'Careers in STEM' presentation.
- Take you to visit leading universities such as Cambridge and Oxford.
- Encourage you to get involved in super-curricular reading and activities, e.g. the Senior Mathematical Challenge.
- Support you with all aspects of the UCAS process including writing your personal statement, sitting your admissions test and going to your interview.



Why choose Barnsley Sixth Form College?

Five great reasons to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College:

- 1** | We are recognised as Outstanding by Ofsted.
- 2** | The pass rate for our 2018/19 cohort was 99% which is above the national average.
- 3** | We have a range of 29 subjects to choose from.
- 4** | In 2019, our students went on to study at some of the country's top universities including Birmingham, Bristol, Durham, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester and Sheffield.
- 5** | Our town centre building provides a first-class learning environment for our students.



OUR COURSES

**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

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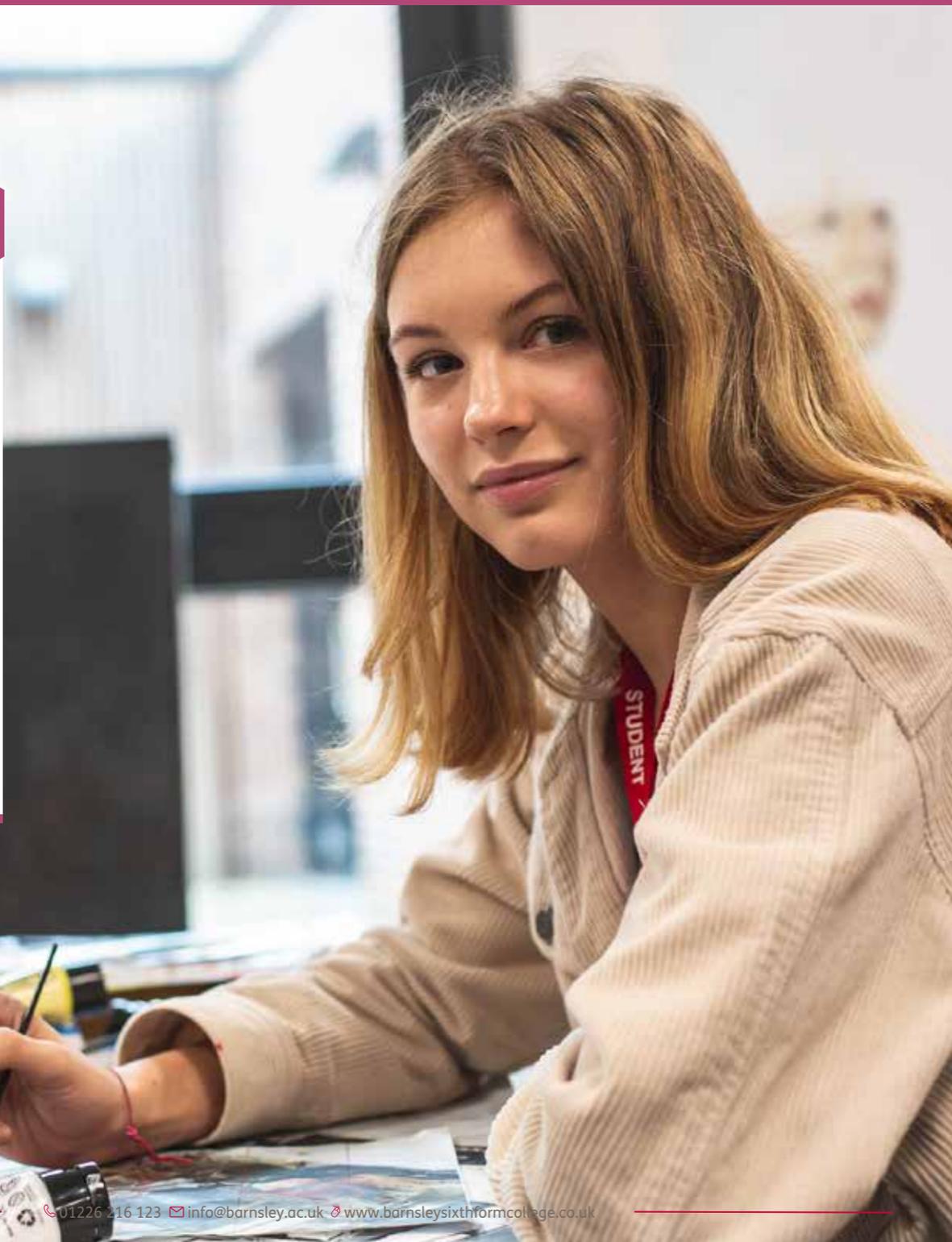


Meet the
A Level
expert

Richard Kitson

Richard is a practising artist with experience of exhibiting, working in art galleries and with arts professionals including curators and fellow artists. He is a Fine Art graduate of the University of Leeds and has been teaching for seven years after gaining his PGCE from the University of Huddersfield. Richard has exhibited his work internationally and participated in Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year 2018 competition.

Richard said: *“Studying Art and Design will teach you how to be a creative practitioner and develop your creative thinking skills. This will extend your experience from GCSE and introduce new techniques whilst giving you the freedom to express your own ideas in a variety of different artistic disciplines.”*



Art (Fine Art)



This course is an award of EDEXCEL

A Level Fine Art is a two-year course which provides candidates with a range of opportunities to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms.

This experience lays a foundation for further study of Fine Art or related subjects in Higher Education. It is suitable for you if you want to develop your interest in and enjoyment of art.

Subject content

Fine Art encompasses a wide range of techniques and processes with a particular emphasis on drawing. All students will undertake academic drawing tuition, including life drawing, in order to develop key skills before developing their own ideas and specialisms. Students can also explore painting, print, 3D, photography and digital processes.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 4 or above in Art and Design or Fine Art. Prospective students can also bring a portfolio of work to their interview for discussion.

Learning methods

In the first year students study a skills-based foundation course preparing them for the first major project (Personal Investigation), worth 60% of the total A Level mark. The Personal Investigation begins towards the end of the first year and continues up until the end of January of the second year to give each candidate the time needed to create individual, ambitious work with an in-depth exploration of a personal theme. This project is then followed by an externally set assignment worth 40% of the total A Level mark and encompasses a 15-hour formal exam at the end of the project.

Assessment

The course is 60% coursework. Students will be required to submit completed projects on set deadlines for assessment. Some assessments will be carried out in one-to-one discussions with your tutor to check progress before final submissions of completed coursework. The 15-hour exam at the end of the Externally Set Assignment is marked as part of the whole project and is worth 40% of your final grade.

Progression opportunities

You can progress to Higher Education to study a variety of Art-related courses such as fine art, sculpture, graphics, textiles and photography. The portfolio of practical work produced on this course will also be useful for interviews, employment and further study. Potential career routes include: fine art, graphic design, animation, illustration, product design, media, marketing, advertising and fashion.



Meet the
A Level
expert

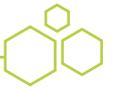
Tracy Rowland

Tracy has a BSc (Hons) degree in Applied Science, a PGCE from the University of Sheffield and has been teaching for 30 years.

Tracy said: *“Biology has such diversity of topics, there is always something new and exciting to be discovered and it provides an excellent grounding for learning as it is very factual. Students will learn a variety of transferable skills, including analysis, evaluation and how to apply knowledge.”*



Biology



This course is an award of AQA

If you are fascinated by how your body works and curious to know more about the interactions of living organisms then this is the course for you.

Biology is an experimental subject which provides opportunities to use practical activities to link theory to real life situations.

The best subject combinations for Biology are Chemistry, Physics and Maths. Geography, PE and Psychology also complement the study of Biology.

Subject content

The topics studied will build on prior learning at GCSE level and will cover a whole range of fundamental biological concepts applied to different situations to make the content interesting, relevant and current.

The main topic areas studied are: biological molecules, cells, exchange of substances between organisms and their environment, genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms, energy transfers in and between organisms, how organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems, DNA Technology and the control of gene expression.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Biology and another science or two Grade 6s or above in Combined Science. Plus GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics.

Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher-assessed.

Progression opportunities

This A Level lays the groundwork for further study in a range of courses across the biology spectrum, including chemistry, zoology, ecology, geography, genetics, nursing, biomedical sciences, maths, physics and medicine and it is accepted as an appropriate A Level for many other degree level courses.

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Meet the A Level expert

Jill Barraclough

Jill has a BA (Hons) degree in Sociology from the University of Leeds, a Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Level 6 qualification, and a PGCE in Business from the University of Huddersfield. She has a substantial amount of teaching experience and before moving into education held senior roles in procurement and supply chain management.

Jill said: "A Level Business provides commercial knowledge and the skills required for analytical or management roles in the private, public or voluntary sectors at a local, national or international level."



OPEN DAYS
2019/20

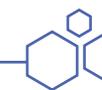
Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



Business



This course is an award of AQA

A Level Business will provide an exciting insight into the dynamic world of business, and will allow you to examine topical news stories and case studies, developing your skills in data analysis, making calculations, group activities, discussions and debating, as well as encouraging creativity, enterprise, initiative and problem-solving techniques.

Subject content

Businesses of all size and types are studied, from sole traders to multi-national conglomerates, such as TATA, and the influences on their decision making processes. The internal influences are marketing, human resource management and finance. The external influences are Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legislation, Ethics and Competition. The content is designed to engage students through topics and issues that are relevant in today's society, such as e-commerce and globalisation.

You will learn about a range of business techniques, including using calculations to assess the viability of a business, the importance of marketing to satisfy customer requirements, how to motivate employees to maximise their output and how every business decision has financial implications. The course also provides a focus on the contemporary business world that allows students to examine current news stories and case studies in relation to the theoretical knowledge and skills that they are developing.

Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as case studies, activities, group work, lectures, debates, focus groups, multimedia, virtual learning environments and individual study.

Assessment

A Level Business is assessed at the end of the second year by examination over three papers.

Progression opportunities

Higher Education courses are available in many universities. Degree level programmes include: business management, business and finance, logistics and supply chain, personnel management, events management and enterprise.

Higher Apprenticeships are also available, leading to business or business administration careers.

Opportunities for graduates include business ownership, sales and marketing executive positions, chartered accountancy, human resource management, logistics and supply chain management, systems analyst positions, retail management, insurance underwriter positions, public relations, teaching and events management.



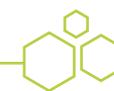
Stephen Shaw

Stephen has a degree in Chemistry with Chemical Engineering from the University of Huddersfield and is an experienced A Level teacher.

Stephen said: *"By taking Chemistry you will develop some very useful skills that can be applied well outside of the subject discipline. These include problem solving, numeracy and practical skills as well as a broad scientific background. As a result, Chemistry is a highly respected and useful qualification for Higher Education and employment in a wide range of areas such as medicine, pharmacy and forensics."*



Chemistry



This course is an award of OCR

A Level Chemistry is a highly regarded and useful qualification for Higher Education and employment in a wide range of areas, particularly for those who wish to pursue a career in science or medicine. The course will allow you to develop a greater understanding of the world around us by an in-depth study of the composition of substances, the investigation of their properties and reactions, and the use of such reactions to form new substances.

Subject content

The course is split into six modules. You will study a variety of topics including: the development of practical skills, foundations in chemistry, periodic table and energy, core organic chemistry, physical chemistry, transition elements, and organic chemistry and analysis.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Chemistry and another science or two Grade 6s or above in Combined Science. Plus GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics.

Learning methods

Our Sixth Form campus includes purpose-built laboratories where you will be taught through a mixture of teacher-led sessions, group activities, independent study and practical-based learning.

Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher-assessed.

Progression opportunities

Studying A Level Chemistry can lead to many exciting careers in healthcare, such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and veterinary medicine. It can also be extremely useful for careers in the biological sciences, physics, mathematics, engineering, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. For students who wish to go straight into employment, there may be opportunities in laboratory work, the food industry, the health service and the chemical industry.



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Abigail Bird

Achieved A*s in Psychology and Sociology, As in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics and Extended Project Qualification and progressed to Durham University to study Theology.

"I enjoyed being taught by supportive tutors in an environment in which it was easy to focus on my studies. There is an all-around pleasant and supportive environment at the Sixth Form College."

Former Horizon Community College pupil

Josh Greaves

Achieved an A* in Mathematics and As in Chemistry and Physics and progressed to the University of Leeds to study Mechanical Engineering.

"The Sixth Form College is a good environment to learn in with plenty of study spaces which encourage independent learning. The tutors are good at the course content and showing you where you need to improve."

Former Barnsley Academy pupil



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Connor Wrend

Achieved As in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics and Extended Project Qualification and progressed to the University of Sheffield to study Aerospace Engineering.

"My tutors were great and I made lots of new friends. The facilities in the Sixth Form campus are really impressive."

Former Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School pupil



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Amy Firth

Achieved As in Art and Design and English Language and Literature and a C in Classical Civilisation and progressed to the University of Manchester to study American Studies.

"I chose to study at the Sixth Form College because of the good pass rates and, during my studies, I enjoyed undertaking independent learning in a supportive environment."

Former Horizon Community College pupil



**CLASS
OF
2019**



**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



Computer Science



This course is an award of AQA

A Level Computer Science encourages students to develop the broad range of knowledge, understanding and skills needed to progress to Higher Education or the workplace. This is a technical subject; you will need mathematical ability, a logical mind and a genuine interest in how computers work. You will learn to design and code C# computer programs; this is a creative activity, satisfying when successful, which requires resilience.

Subject content

Students will develop:

- An understanding of the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science.
- The ability to analyse and solve problems, including by writing original program code.
- The capacity for thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.
- Mathematical skills in Boolean algebra, complex algorithms and data representation.
- An awareness of the moral, social, legal and cultural consequences of digital technology.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics is essential. There will also be an induction test for programming aptitude. It is recommended that A Level Computer Science is taken alongside other science subjects and/or Mathematics. GCSE Computer Science is not compulsory, but experience of coding is very helpful, especially for non-science students.

Learning methods

You will be taught using a variety of methods, including presentations, lectures and group work. There will be regular programming sessions where you will learn and practise independent coding skills. Weekly assessments include worksheets and online quizzes.

Assessment

At the end of the course, there are two formal examinations:

Paper 1. Practical – on-screen programming

Tests a student's ability to write code, as well as theoretical knowledge, covering: fundamentals of programming, data structures, algorithms and computation theory.

Paper 2. Theory - written

Tests a student's ability to answer questions covering: data representation, computer systems, architecture, effects of use of computers, communication and networking, databases, Big Data and functional programming.

Non-exam assessment – coursework

During the second year, students will produce an individual project which demonstrates their problem-solving and coding ability. They will use the knowledge and skills gained throughout the course to create software on a subject of personal interest. Students will work independently over an extended period and present their results as a programmed solution and accompanying formal technical report.

Progression opportunities

Computer Science will prepare you for a range of specialist degrees including Computing and Software Engineering. It also provides transferable skills for a range of other scientific and technical subjects. Career pathways could include: network administrator, database analyst/designer, website developer, technical support and programmer.

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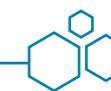
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Criminology



This course is an award of WJEC

Criminology is becoming an increasingly popular subject for students who are interested in a career in criminology or the criminal justice system.

The subject explores different types of crime, public perceptions of crime and explanations of crime including biological, psychological and sociological theories. As part of the course students will also learn about investigating crimes, the trial process and how laws are created.

It is an Applied Diploma course which is the equivalent to one A Level and would be studied alongside two other A Levels.

Subject content

In the first year of this course, you will study types of crime, the public perceptions of crime and reasons for unreported crime. You'll also focus on media representation of crime and its impact on public perceptions, collecting and evaluating statistics about crime, crime campaigns and explanations of criminal behaviour (including biological, psychological and sociological explanations).

The units you will cover in the second year are: investigating crime scenes (including how to process forensic evidence), trial process, law making and forms of punishment.

Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods including lectures, group activities, independent research and discussion.

Assessment

You will be assessed via controlled assessment and examination. In both years of the course, there will be an eight-hour controlled assessment (split over two days) and a 90-minute examination.

Progression opportunities

Progression opportunities could include going on to study a degree in criminology, sociology, psychology or law.

Career opportunities could include a career in the criminal justice system such as; police officer, detective, prison officer, probation officer or social/youth worker.



Shannon Walker

Meet the A Level expert

Shannon studied Drama and Performing Arts at both BTEC and degree level and graduated from Sheffield Hallam University in 2018 with a PGCE in Post-16 and Further Education.

Shannon said: "Drama and Theatre Studies is a creative and practical based course, allowing you to explore creativity, confidence, teamwork, critical analysis and performance skills through a wide variety of plays and practitioners. You'll take part in practical classes and workshops, alongside watching and reviewing live productions, developing writing and research skills and even creating and devising your own performances. The skills you'll learn can benefit future progression to university and are transferable to a large number of different careers."



Drama and Theatre Studies

This course is an award of AQA

Over two years you will have the opportunity to study and research a range of published plays, learning how to approach these from both a director's and performer's perspective. You will learn about acting skills and apply these in scripted and devised work, creating group performances in preparation for a practical performance exam. Regular visits to the theatre will be expected to draw inspiration for both your practical and written work.

Subject content

The course is comprised of three components. Component One includes the study of two set plays and the analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers. Component Two involves creating and performing devised drama. Component Three involves practical exploration and interpretation of three script extracts from different plays, one of which is performed as a final assessed piece.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 4 or above in Drama or equivalent performance-based qualification or experience.

Learning methods

You will learn through discussions, independent research, group work, practical performance and audience feedback.

Assessment

Assessment is by a written paper for Component One, performance and working notebook for Component Two and a performance and written report for Component Three.

Progression opportunities

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies will train you from both a practical performance and an academic point of view. Students have gone on to study a range of Higher Education courses, including English, sociology, teaching and degree courses in drama or acting. Many students also enter the professional industry of performing arts.

OPEN DAYS
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
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Economics



This course is an award of AQA

Economics is about choice and the impact of choices made. It relates to every aspect of our lives, from the decisions we make as individuals or collectives to the structures created by governments and firms.

The credit crunch, international trade, global warming, sustainable development and inequalities between countries – these are all issues to which economics can be applied to provide solutions to global problems.

Subject content

You will develop a critical approach to economic models and methods of enquiry. The course will focus on the economic problem of too many wants and too few resources, the operation of markets (demand and supply) and market failure, as well as looking at how price is determined in competitive and concentrated markets.

You will discuss government intervention into the market, for example to reduce the consumption of demerit goods such as alcohol. You will analyse the macroeconomic performance of national economy by measures such as: GDP, inflation, unemployment and the balance of payments (international trade) in a global context. You will gain a good knowledge of developments in the UK economy and government policies over the past 15 years.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and Mathematics.

Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as: case studies, activities, group work, lectures, debates, focus groups, multimedia, virtual learning environments and individual study. Question papers use a variety of assessment styles including real-life case studies and data exercises.

Assessment

A Level Economics is assessed at the end of the second year by examination over three two-hour papers.

Progression opportunities

Higher Education courses are available in many universities.

A degree in Economics provides a wide array of both subject-specific and transferable skills, all of which are highly sought after by employers. Jobs directly related to an Economics degree include: stock market trader, chartered certified accountant, chartered public finance accountant, economist, financial risk analyst, investment analyst, statistician, actuary, civil service fast streamer, diplomatic services operational officer, local government officer, management consultant and quantity surveyor.



OPEN DAYS
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English Language



This course is an award of AQA

This course has relevant, engaging and up-to-date content that reflects contemporary language study. With exciting text and data-based sources of language, the specification introduces the study of English in its various forms and contexts, with the learning of methods for analysing language underpinning all elements of the course.

Subject content

One component of the course involves the study of language in relation to the individual and society. This includes analysing and comparing a wide variety of texts, and studying children's spoken and written language development from 0-11 years. Another component focuses on wider themes of language diversity and change, with essay-writing about these topics and analysis of texts presenting ideas, attitudes and opinions about them.

There are also opportunities to produce your own writing about language topics and ideas. In addition there is a more individual element where you will produce your own data-based language investigation, based on independent research, and a piece of original writing with a commentary.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language.

Assessment

This subject will be assessed by external examination and coursework (the language investigation).

Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Language is valued by both Higher Education establishments and employers, since it shows a high level of communication skills and the ability to think analytically. Popular career choices include teacher (primary/secondary/ Further Education or teacher of English as a Foreign Language), speech therapist, lawyer, librarian, journalist or roles in media and communications.



Caroline Farrar

Meet the A Level expert

Caroline has a BA (Hons) and Masters degree, and has been teaching English Language and English Literature since 2000. She has also been an examiner for both subjects.

Caroline said: "English Language involves the study of language in use in society and the way it functions and changes. English Language helps develop the skills of analysis, research and a fluent academic writing style. These transferable skills are invaluable for careers in journalism, media, law, teaching, civil service and any occupation where clear written and spoken communication is paramount."



Meet the
A Level
expert

Karen Scott

University of Sheffield Politics and English graduate Karen has been teaching English since 2001. She completed her PGCE at the University of Huddersfield and has a Master's degree in Literature.

Karen said: *"English Language and Literature is an excellent core subject to study at A Level. It provides a great grounding for many progression routes at university and in employment, including law, history, psychology, journalism, media and teaching. As well as skills in reading and research you'll also develop social skills through analysis of speech."*



English Language and Literature



This course is an award of AQA

This course brings together aspects of two English A Levels: A Level English Language and A Level English Literature, which you have probably studied as separate GCSE subjects at school. There are real advantages in continuing your English studies on an integrated course. If you are as interested in non-fiction and non-literary texts as you are in poetry, plays and novels then this may well be the best choice for you if you do not want to take two full and separate English A Levels.

Subject content

In the first year you will study the anthology 'Paris' and a selection of poems by Carol Ann Duffy alongside 'The Lovely Bones', a literary text. You will develop your skills in adapting and shaping original material, evaluating your own writing and integrating language analysis into your studies.

In the second year the focus is on 'Telling Stories' and 'Exploring Conflict', in addition you will produce a personal investigation exploring a specific theme using a favourite book as your starting point. If you cannot make up your mind about a text you will be directed to 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' by John Boyne. When analysing conflict you will explore the role of the individual in society and relationships with others and produce some re-creative writing based upon your set text 'The Great Gatsby'. There are two examinations at the end of your second year.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language.

Assessment

The course contains regular assignments, with deadlines agreed by your tutor. Final assessment is by examination and coursework.

Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Language and Literature is valued by both Higher Education establishments and employers, since it is evidence of both a high level of literacy and the ability to think analytically. Future careers and professions include: teacher, author, publisher, librarian, lawyer, journalist and media-related roles.

**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



English Literature

This course is an award of AQA

The study of A Level English Literature will focus on reading and analysing texts within a shared context.

You will be encouraged to explore the relationships between various texts and the specific contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying these poetry, prose and drama works enables you to investigate

and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives.

Subject content

The first topic area, Love Through the Ages, leads to an exam on poetry, prose and Shakespeare set texts as well as unseen items. The Texts in Shared Contexts topic area gives you the opportunity to explore aspects of literature connected through a period of time. Again the exam here includes set texts of all three genres as well as unseen material.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language and Literature.

Assessment

This subject will be assessed by external examination and coursework (a 2,500 word independent critical study based on a thematic comparison of two texts across time).

Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Literature is highly regarded by universities and so provides a pathway to a wide range of Higher Education programmes. Research shows there are a huge variety of jobs on offer for those with an academic background in English Literature. Career options could include copywriting, public relations, journalism, animation, teaching, design and TV production.



**Graeme
Stables**

Meet the
A Level
expert

After studying a BA (Hons) degree in English Studies, Graeme completed a Masters in Contemporary Writers and a PGCE. He has 26 years' teaching experience.

Graeme said: "A Level English Literature students will gain valuable skills in research, analysis using the appropriate terminology, structured arguments, speaking and listening in debate, accurate writing, critical thinking and a knowledge and understanding of a variety of literary texts in their historical and cultural contexts."

**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



Film Studies



This course is an award of WJEC

This course is designed to deepen your understanding and appreciation of film. We study 11 different films looking at their social, cultural, political and historical contexts. Narrative structures, critical debates, filmmakers' theories and ideologies behind the films are also explored, along with how filmmaking techniques can create different meanings for viewers.

Subject content

In your first year you will study two Hollywood films, one from a Classical Hollywood period, *Vertigo* (1958), and one from the New Hollywood period, *Blade Runner* (1982). You will then study two contemporary American films, *Selma* (2014), which is a mainstream film, and *Beasts of the Southern Wild* (2012), an independent film.

You will then study two global films, *Pan's Labyrinth* (2006) and *City of God* (2002) to broaden your film knowledge and understanding of foreign language film.

In the second year, British Film and Documentary Film will be studied alongside film movements such as Silent Cinema and Experimental Film looking at their stylistic developments in film history.

Learning methods

Lessons will typically consist of film screenings, lectures, discussions and essay writing.

There is a creative coursework component which allows students to create a screenplay for a short film (1,600-1,800 words) plus a digitally photographed storyboard of a key section from the screenplay.

An evaluative analysis is to be written, reflecting on the finished product.

Assessment

Assessment is 70% examination, 30% coursework. You will also be assessed by written essays, homework, creative projects, group work, individual work and presentations.

Progression opportunities

Film Studies is an excellent complementary subject to Media, English Literature, Psychology, Sociology, Politics, Law, History, and Art and Design.

Students on the Film Studies course can progress onto a variety of film or media-related careers such as a producer, director, director of photography, editor, set designer, audio engineer, Foley artist, light technician, film critic, special effects specialist, visual effects specialist, props and wardrobe manager, location manager, teacher or screenplay writer as well as having the chance to study Film Studies/Film and Media Production at Higher Education level.





**CLASS
OF
2019**

Evan Hardy

Achieved an A* in Biology and As in Chemistry and Mathematics and progressed to the University of Birmingham to study Medicine.

"I liked the fact I had more independence at Barnsley Sixth Form College and I met a lot of friends from other towns that I might not have met otherwise. My teachers were amazing and made learning enjoyable."

Former Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School pupil

Dominic Jones

Achieved As in History and Politics, a B in Sociology and an A* in Extended Project Qualification and progressed to the University of Liverpool to study Politics.

"Studying at the Sixth Form College provided me with more than A Levels, I had the opportunity to develop as a person in a community environment. The College is a fantastic step between school and university and prepares you for life."

Former Holy Trinity Catholic and Church of England School pupil



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Rachel Copley

Achieved an A* in Biology and Chemistry, an A in Mathematics and progressed to the University of Leeds to study Natural Sciences.

"I enjoyed the subjects I studied and mixing with people who have the same interests. The environment was friendly when I attended an Open Day and that continued throughout my studies."

Former Netherwood ALC pupil



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Emily Micklethwaite

Achieved an A* in Mathematics and Bs in Chemistry and Physics and progressed to the University of Leeds to study Physics.

"There is lots of support in place at the Sixth Form College and the tutors are always available to help. The whole experience of studying in the pleasant atmosphere at the College is enjoyable."

Former Barnsley Academy pupil



**CLASS
OF
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DAYS**

2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



French

This course is an award of AQA



This course will help you develop your knowledge of the French language and your understanding of French culture and society through the study of authentic and current articles, modern literary texts and films. The study of French at A Level will enable you to develop excellent communication and critical thinking skills, explore a wide range of topics about French contemporary society and give you the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

Subject content

In year one you will focus on technological and social change within French society such as the changing nature of family or the 'cyber society'. You will also study either a modern literary text or a film and learn about highlights of French artistic culture including music and cinema. Throughout the two-year course you will build on your knowledge of the grammar learnt for GCSE and study the grammatical system and structures of the language.

In year two you will cover further aspects of French society such as multiculturalism and diversity, life for the marginalised and how criminals are treated. You will also look at aspects of political life in France including how young people engage with politics. You will also study a second literary text or a film. You will be given the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice. The study of grammar will continue.

To really help you develop your speaking skills and increase your confidence, you will be asked to attend a 30-minute speaking session each week, either on an individual basis or in a small group.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in French.

Learning methods

You will experience a wide variety of methods of learning, such as paired work and group work on a particular topic, traditional lessons, individual work such as listening activities, research work on a topic of your choice and literary analysis on a novel or a film. You will practise different skills every lesson, such as speaking, listening, reading and writing.

You will be expected to use websites such as Kerboodle, Languages Online, YouTube and others to support your learning. You will also use the AQA-endorsed textbook which will be supplemented by the Elan grammar book.

Assessment

Assessment is by examination.

Paper 1 is a listening, reading and translation paper which will assess the topics covered during the course.

Paper 2 is a writing paper which will assess the texts and/or film studied during the course.

Paper 3 is the speaking exam which assesses the individual research project and some of the topics studied.

Progression opportunities

This course is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or on to Higher Education. There are many courses at university where you can combine languages with another subject, for example business, law, teaching or travel and tourism.

Knowledge of a foreign language will definitely improve your job prospects and career opportunities. Employers value language skills highly and language graduates are always sought-after.

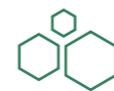
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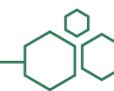
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Saturday 23 November
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Thursday 30 January
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Geography



This course is an award of EDEXCEL

Geography is a far reaching and all-encompassing subject that focuses on diverse issues relating to the human and physical world in the past, present and future. It is relevant to all aspects of our lives and explores largely contemporary issues with reference to a range of scales including local, national and global.

Consequently, it is an extremely exciting and dynamic subject, which combines approaches from both social and physical sciences.

Subject content

At A Level you will study a balance of human and physical geography topics over the two years. In physical geography you will study tectonic processes and hazards, coastal landscapes and change, the water cycle and water insecurity, and the carbon cycle and energy security. In human geography you will study globalisation, urban regeneration, superpowers, migration, identity and sovereignty. You will also complete an individual investigation which must include completion of four compulsory days of fieldwork, including a residential field trip.

Fieldwork costs

There will be a cost for the residential field trip, which will be in the region of £250 (2019 cost) and can be paid in instalments. The cost covers transport, tuition, accommodation and meals. There will also be a smaller additional payment required for a Holderness Coast field trip, in the vicinity of £15 (2019 estimate).

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Geography and in English Language and Maths.

Learning methods

The course includes a mixture of teacher-led and student-led strategies including group work, presentations, independent research, fieldwork and the use of ICT and GIS (Geographical Information Systems).

Geography is a subject that demands hands on, practical approaches, as well as the academic rigour that makes it such a high status subject.

Assessment

The A Level is assessed by three exams, one physical (30%), one human (30%) and one based on a geographical issue linking the course content (20%). The remaining 20% will be assessed through coursework.

Progression opportunities

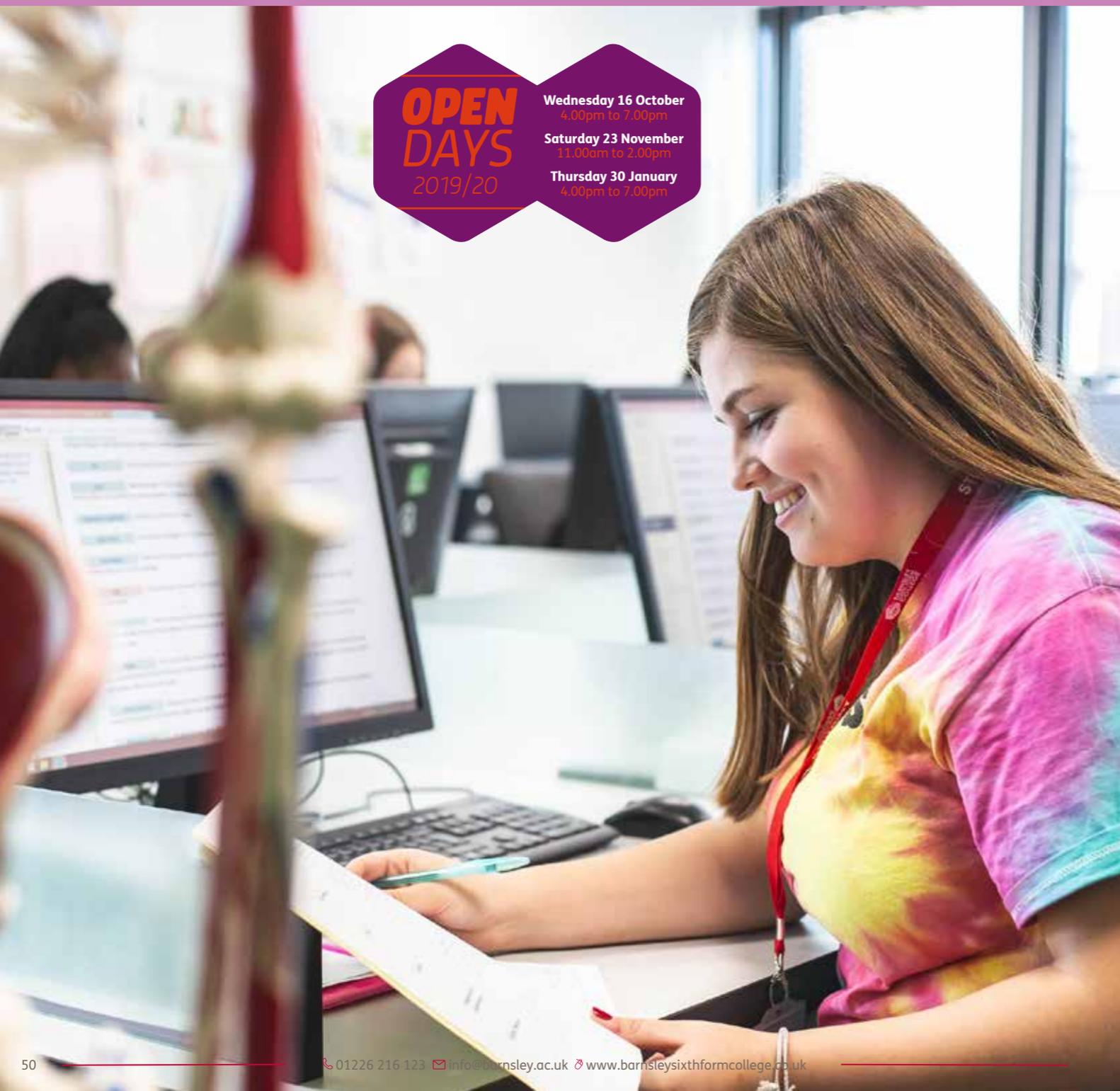
Geography combines equally well with both arts and science subjects, so our students go on to study a number of Higher Education courses including geography, biology, environmental sciences, law, philosophy, sociology, business, medicine and architecture. Geography students are in great demand by employers due to the wide range of transferable skills that they acquire. Career areas could include sustainability, energy supply, retail location, urban regeneration and urban design, managing hazards, climate change, marine biology, global economics, teaching, human rights, construction and conservation. The course allows students to gain a wide skill base which is in demand by academic institutions and employers alike and, as such, presents a diverse range of job and Higher Education possibilities.

**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



Health and Social Care



This course is an award of OCR

Health and Social Care provides an opportunity to explore how health affects individuals in society. Students will investigate areas including building positive relationships, equality and diversity and health and safety. The Cambridge Extended Technical Certificate in Health and Social Care focuses on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to work in the health and social care sector.

Subject content

In the first year students will explore building positive relationships, which will enhance their understanding of the importance of relationships in the delivery of safe and effective care. Students will consider how equality, diversity and rights can be promoted in health and social care settings. Students will also explore what it means to be safe and how to maintain a safe working environment.

In the second year students will develop their understanding of anatomy and physiology, where they will learn about the structure and function of the different bodily systems. In the second year students will also study public health and mental health.

Assessment

Assessment in year one will be 33% coursework and 67% exam based.

Assessment in year two is 50% coursework and 50% exam based.

Progression opportunities

This course has a wide range of progression opportunities, which can lead to Higher Education in social work, nursing and social science degrees. It complements other A Level subjects and will equip you with the skills needed for Higher Education and the world of work. In combination with other subjects, you could go on to pursue a career in nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, occupational therapy or teaching.



Meet the
A Level
expert

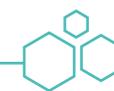
Sherridan Cocker

Sherridan has an Honours degree in Combined Humanities from the University of Sheffield, a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University and has been lecturing at degree level and teaching A Levels since 2003.

Sherridan said: *"History is a core subject that fits in really well with other A Levels. It will give you the desirable skills you need for progression onto university or work, including research, extended writing and an understanding of topical and historical issues."*



History



This course is an award of EDEXCEL

We study history in order to learn about the past but often what is most evident is how powerfully the past and present are connected.

To be a good historian at A Level you will need to be able to explore both sides of an argument and see alternative points of view before developing your own evaluation of the facts and documents of the time. This is a highly interpretative subject and class activities encourage independent thinking, very high level reading skills and a thirst for synthesising information from a range of sources, before attempting to evaluate them and reach conclusions of your own.

Subject content

You will study European and British history, covering a period of 200 years. The main focus will be on the 17th, 19th and 20th centuries. In the first year you will study 17th century British History, focusing on the Civil War and the progression towards a constitutional monarchy during the reigns of Charles I, Charles II, James II and William and Mary. During this module you will be given the opportunity to assess and evaluate historical interpretations of this period. You will also study in-depth the history of Russia from 1894 to 1924, focusing on the end of the Tsarist regime, the Russian revolutions of 1917 and the beginning of the world's first communist country.

In addition, you will develop your analytical, evaluative and research skills through the coursework you will undertake, which focuses on the historical controversies of Germany's responsibility for the outbreak of war in 1914 or to what extent the Holocaust was planned.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in History and English Language.

Assessment

Assessment is 80% examination and 20% coursework.

Progression opportunities

A Level History is a highly valued subject at university and beyond. The development of your skills as a historian may enable progression into careers as diverse as law, journalism, media, marketing, management and teaching. More specialist careers might include museum curator, archaeologist, archivist or researcher.



**Alex
Melhuish**

**Meet the
A Level
expert**

After completing a degree in Software Engineering at Sheffield Hallam University, Alex did a PGCE before starting his teaching career eight years ago.

Alex said: "Whatever job you hope to do in the future you'll likely be interacting with technology and this course will teach you how to be a competent user of IT. It looks at the impact and issues which arise from the use of technology for individuals, society and organisations as well as investigating future technologies."

Information Technology (IT)

This course is an award of OCR

Almost 90% of new jobs require digital skills to some degree. The relentless pace of emerging digital technologies has already transformed the way we communicate and work. As a result of emerging technologies, there is a growing demand for high level digital skills in areas such as cyber-security, cloud and mobile computing and data analytics.

The Cambridge Extended Technical Certificate in IT allows students to learn and be assessed in ways that are practical and relevant to the IT sector. This course is not just about being able to use computers. Employers

need people who are able to help them develop their systems or systems for their customers and use IT as a tool to analyse data and develop applications.

Subject content

In the first year you will study the following two mandatory units: Fundamentals of IT and Global Information. These units provide an insight into the IT sector, as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, and the flow of information on a global scale, as well as the important legal and security considerations.

In the second year you will explore application design and develop a prototype to meet a user requirement. You will then take two optional units. The optional units could include: cyber security, product development, mobile technology, social media and digital marketing, games design and prototyping, internet of everything or web design and prototyping.

Assessment

Assessment is by 67% examination and 33% coursework.

Progression opportunities

This qualification will give students a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills in the field context of applied IT, providing them with the opportunity to progress to a related Higher Education course, enter an apprenticeship or move directly into employment.

Students may go on to study relevant IT Higher Education programmes such as: computing and IT, computing science, software development, software engineering, ICT and computer networks, business information systems or digital media.

Past students have progressed into a variety of career paths, from system developers, web designers and IT support, to teachers and digital marketers. An IT qualification will prove valuable regardless of your chosen career path.



Meet the A Level expert

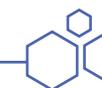
Deborah Darian

Deborah graduated with a LL.B (Hons) degree in Law from the University of Leeds and completed her PGCE at the University of Huddersfield. She has been teaching A Level Law for over 20 years.

Deborah said: "Law is relevant to everyone as it affects every area of our lives, from our rights when buying something in a shop to legalities around relationships with others. You will develop excellent problem solving skills, learn how to devise and present a strong argument and increase your confidence in dealing with a range of people and situations."



Law



This course is an award of AQA

A Level Law is interesting and informative for students who would like to enter a career in law or want to study a subject that will give an insight into the legal framework that underpins our society. This course deals with complex principles and requires an ability to understand highly detailed cases and apply this knowledge to examination questions.

Subject content

In the first year, you will learn about the nature of law, including sources of law and the differences between criminal and civil law. You will also explore the English legal system, for example the courts, how law is made, interpreted and reformed, and how you can qualify as a lawyer. You will then focus on criminal law and learn to apply legal principles and cases to hypothetical scenarios.

In the second year, you will focus on problem solving in tort law and human rights law. You will also explore the role of law in society, study the relationship between law and morality and consider whether the law always achieves justice.

During the course, you will have the opportunity to visit the Magistrates' Court and Crown Court, attend talks from visiting speakers and visit university Law departments.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English Language.

Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods including lectures, group work and individual research.

Assessment

There will be regular tests and exam question practice. Assessment is by examination.

Progression opportunities

Most students progress on to Higher Education to study a wide range of degree courses, including Law. After successful completion of a qualifying Law degree, you can then decide to continue training to become a solicitor or a barrister. Other career options could include the civil service, police, accountancy, the probation service, qualifying as a legal executive through the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx) route and legal apprenticeships.

OPEN DAYS
2019/20

- Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm
- Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm
- Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



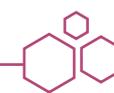
Gavin Stewart

Gavin has a first-class Master's degree in Mathematics as well as a PGCE from the University of York.

Gavin said: "This is the A Level to choose if you are interested in Maths and performed well at GCSE level. The course allows you to deepen your mathematical understanding whilst profiting on its desirability in other career areas, from medicine to computing."



Mathematics



This course is an award of EDEXCEL

Mathematics should be studied for its inherent elegance as a way of viewing the world around us.

Over two years, you will study and investigate a wide range of mathematical concepts.

If you enjoyed the challenge of problem solving in your Maths GCSE, you will definitely find A Level Mathematics an appealing choice.

Subject content

The content of A Level Mathematics splits broadly into the two strands of Pure Maths and Applied Maths (Statistics and Mechanics).

Two-thirds: Pure Maths extends work covered at GCSE on algebra, trigonometry and graphs, as well as introducing brand new topics such as logarithms, calculus and vectors.

One-sixth: Statistics allows us to investigate real-world data. From this we are able to make predictions and assess the validity of certain statistical models used to analyse the ever-changing world around us.

One-sixth: Mechanics describes the motion of objects and how they respond to forces, from cars in the street to satellites revolving around a planet.

Specific entry requirements

Students must have a minimum of Grade 6 in GCSE Maths (although Grade 7 or above is preferred). Students are also required to pass an entrance test before starting the course.

Students will need to purchase the Casio Fx-991EX calculator for the course as well as a textbook.

Learning methods

You will discover and explore Maths by discussion and group work as well as independent research and practical work.

Assessment

There will be regular homework and class tests to prepare for the final exams. Assessment is by examination at the end of the two years of study:

Paper 1 and Paper 2 – Pure Maths

Paper 3 – Statistics and Mechanics

The content from both years of study are examined in these three papers.

Progression opportunities

Mathematics is a versatile A Level choice and is highly regarded by Higher Education establishments. Maths is a key component of many degree courses, including computer science, engineering, natural sciences, economics, medicine, geography, architecture and, of course, mathematics itself. Graduates go on to have a wide range of careers in any job where logical thought and problem solving are required such as accountancy, computing, scientific research and medicine.



Lane Stephenson

Meet the A Level expert

After graduating with a first-class Master's degree in Maths and Statistics from Newcastle University, Lane worked in finance before completing a PGCE at the University of York. He has been teaching A Level Maths and Further Maths for six years.

Lane said: "Maths is a fantastic core subject which provides you with the ability to solve complex problems in a systematic and logical way. It is a great foundation for a number of undergraduate degree courses and is highly regarded by universities."



Further Mathematics

This course is an award of EDEXCEL

This course is an additional A Level in Mathematics, expanding upon the many areas of study met in A Level Mathematics as well as introducing new and exciting topics.

A genuine love of maths and an enquiring mind are essential for students wishing to take this course. You must be confident with the algebra studied at higher level GCSE and show an enthusiasm to overcome the challenges that A Level Further Mathematics provides.

Subject content

The content of A Level Further Mathematics splits into two strands: Compulsory (Core) Pure Maths and Further Applied Maths.

50%: Core Pure Mathematics builds on the knowledge and understanding of algebra and extends the content introduced in A Level Mathematics. You will meet new topics such as complex numbers, matrices, proof, hyperbolic functions, polar coordinates and further calculus.

50%: Further Applied Maths options will be chosen depending on the strengths of the group. Options are available in Additional Pure Maths, Statistics and Mechanics as well as a relatively modern branch of maths known as Decision Mathematics. This uses algorithms to solve a range of problems involving networks and is particularly useful in science, computing, business and industry.

Specific entry requirements

Students must have a minimum of Grade 8 in GCSE Maths.

Since A Level Further Mathematics is a second A Level in maths, you must also be studying A Level Mathematics alongside this course. In most cases we would expect A Level (or AS Level) Further Mathematics to be taken as a fourth A Level course.

Learning methods

You will deepen your understanding of maths by discussion and group work as well as independent research and practical work.

Assessment

This course is unique, in that it can be studied as either an AS Level qualification or full A Level. This allows students who perform well in Year 12 Maths to pick up AS Further Maths in Year 13. This is a real advantage, especially if you are looking at studying maths at university.

For AS Level there are two exams: Core Pure Maths and Further Applied Maths. All candidates will sit these exams at the end of the first year to assess their suitability to progress onto the A Level course.

For A Level there are four exams: two Core Pure papers and two Further Applied papers. The content from both years of study are examined in these papers.

Progression opportunities

A Level Further Mathematics is a highly regarded and prestigious qualification. Many Higher Education programmes in maths, physics and engineering now ask specifically for Further Mathematics to at least AS Level.

Graduates go on to have a range of careers in areas such as actuarial science, quantitative finance and risk management, aerospace engineering, biomathematics and cryptology.



**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm



Media Studies



This course is an award of WJEC

Media Studies looks at a broad range of texts from different media areas such as magazines, newspapers, TV programmes and music videos. We investigate issues such as representation in the media and how media industries use language to sell products to specific audiences.

Subject content

Media Studies is split into the following areas:

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences (35% of course content).

Component 2: Media Forms and Products In-Depth (35% of course content).

Component 3: Cross-Media Production (30% of course content).

Component 1: Media Products, Industries and Audiences

You will study media language and representation in relation to two of the following media forms: advertising, marketing, music video, film, video games or newspapers.

Component 2: Media Forms and Products In-Depth

For this topic you will study media industries, audiences and media contexts, looking at areas such as Television in the Global Age and Media in the Online Age, how the internet has influenced the influx of social media and blogging sites and how the increasing shift online has changed the way traditional media industries operate. For this module you will also study the print industry in contrast, looking at mainstream and alternative magazine productions.

Component 3: Cross-Media Production

Here you will produce an individual piece of coursework across two forms of media, applying theory learned in class and demonstrating knowledge of digital convergence.

Potential options for coursework are: filming a sequence for a new television programme and creating related print or products to market this, such as a DVD cover, billboard poster, magazine cover and two-page spread.

Learning methods

You will learn through creative projects, debates, group work, lectures and the practical application of the skills you have acquired.

Assessment

Assessment is 70% examination and 30% coursework.

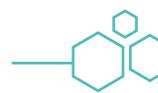
Progression opportunities

Students can progress to Higher Education to study a variety of media-related courses, such as film and media production, photography, advertising, marketing, PR and media studies.

Possible careers include broadcaster, camera operator, computer animator, film producer, film editor, journalist, presenter, production designer, scriptwriter and sound operator.



Medical Science



This course is an award of WJEC

Medical Science is the science of dealing with the maintenance of health and the prevention and treatment of diseases. Medical Scientists are at the forefront of healthcare services, as they are vital in the diagnosis of disease, determining the effectiveness of treatments and searching for new cures.

This course is perfect if you are interested in careers related to healthcare and medical research

and have already enjoyed successfully studying science. It is an Applied Diploma course which is the equivalent to one A Level and would be studied alongside two other A Levels.

Subject content

The course covers the key topic areas of health, physiology and disease, as well as providing the opportunity to study the areas of pharmacology, physiological measurement, clinical testing and medical research.

You will complete the following units: human health and disease; physiological measurement techniques; medical science research methods; medicines and treatment of disease; clinical laboratory techniques and a medical case study.

Specific entry requirements

Grade 4 or above in either GCSE Combined Science or GCSE Biology and a Grade 4 or above in GCSE Maths.

Learning methods

The course will be delivered through a variety of teaching and learning methods which will include group work, practical activities, research tasks and independent learning. You will need to be able to work well independently and meet coursework deadlines.

Assessment

You will be assessed using a combination of internal and external assessments.

These units will be internally assessed:

- Physiological measurement techniques
- Medical Science research methods
- Medicines and treatment of disease

These units will be externally assessed:

- Human health and disease (via written examinations)
- Clinical laboratory techniques (via an externally set and marked task based assessment)
- Medical case study (via written examinations)

Progression opportunities

This course will equip you with scientific knowledge and understanding and the practical skills to support progression to a range of job roles within health care.

When supported by other appropriate qualifications, the course will enable progression to a range of Applied Science Higher Education programmes, such as biomedical science, life sciences and physiology.

Please note: This course does not allow progression into medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or veterinary science.



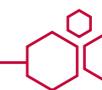
Joe Palmer

After completing a Level 3 course in Development, Coaching and Fitness at Barnsley College, Joe secured a football scholarship at New York's Genesee College where he obtained an Associate Degree in PE before undertaking his BSc (Hons) degree in Sports Coaching at Leeds Beckett University. He also has a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University.

Joe said: "You will be assessed through practical sessions and exams and really develop your passion for sport. PE complements other A Levels very well and particularly works with Biology and Psychology. You may also have the chance to complete officiating and coaching qualifications alongside your A Levels."



Physical Education (PE)



This course is an award of AQA

A Level Physical Education will build on your experience at GCSE to enhance your knowledge and increase understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical education.

The qualification aims to equip you with the skills and knowledge required for Higher Education or the world of work. The content of this

course addresses topics such as: anatomy and physiology, sports psychology and the use of technology in sport to enhance performance.

Subject content

A Level PE offers a holistic and in-depth insight into a wide range of important and interesting topics. Section A is the Sports Science-based content. Section B looks at Sports Psychology and Section C looks at how Sport has influenced and changed society.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Biology or Combined Science.

Grade 5 or above in GCSE PE is also highly beneficial.

Additionally, success in A Level PE is heavily reliant on students playing competitively or coaching regularly in sport.

Assessment

You will be assessed at the end of the A Level course by examinations. Paper 1 covers Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Skill Acquisition, and Sport and Society. Paper 2 covers Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics, Sport Psychology, and Technology in Sport. You will also be assessed practically in your chosen sport.

Progression opportunities

You will develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to prepare you for sports-related courses in Higher Education. Alternatively, you may wish to progress into employment within the sports industry. Popular careers and university-based, sports-related courses include:

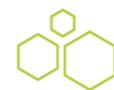
- Physiotherapy/sports massage
- Sports business/marketing
- Performance analyst
- Sports science
- Sports medicine
- Nutrition/dietitian
- Teaching/coaching
- NHS careers – occupational therapy and nursing



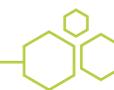
Jonathan Ison

Jonathan has a BEng degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Leeds and has been teaching for over 25 years. He also has a PGCE (Science) from Bangor University.

Jonathan said: "Physics is a vital course for the future of innovation in the UK. It covers challenging ideas from researching the beginning of time through to designing electronics, transport and green energy. The skills you will develop can open doors to a wide range of careers, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) companies."



Physics



This course is an award of OCR

A Level Physics is a challenging course but, if you possess a deep interest in how things work, then it is also immensely rewarding.

You will study the physics of the smallest particle, the galaxies and the universe itself. A Levels simply do not get bigger in scope than this one.

Subject content

In the first year you will learn about particles, quantum phenomena and electricity, as well as fundamental particles, from protons to photons. This is always an exciting part for new students and underpins what you do next. The next topic is quantum phenomena where you will enter the world of the small and the weird! We will explore electricity where you will learn about circuits, how we use electricity, explore electrons and ions, and consider how we have been making electricity work for us since 1887.

Topics in the second year include fields and further mechanics, looking at imaginary lines of force that apply across the entire universe, how they work and why they are so important, and explaining all types of motion. You will also study nuclear, thermal and cosmological physics.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Physics and another science or two Grade 6s or above in Combined Science. Plus GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics.

Given the fundamental underpinning of maths, you will need to take A Level Mathematics alongside Physics.

Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher-assessed.

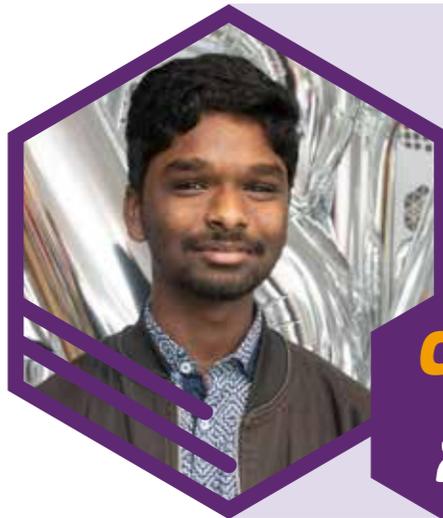
Progression opportunities

Studying Physics can be a springboard to a number of careers and you could progress into Higher Education to study astronomy, dentistry, engineering, forensic science, medicine, sound recording, veterinary science or finance.

Career possibilities include architect, biotechnologist, communications worker, computer technician, electrician, energy sector worker, engineer, medical physicist, patent lawyer, science journalist or teacher.

A Level Physics shows a university admissions tutor, or an employer, that you have a keen logical mind and are mathematically very capable, skills that are highly sought after.

Subjects that prove useful for progression to technical Higher Education courses when taken alongside Physics include Computing, Chemistry, Further Maths and Geography.



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Joshua Palmer

Achieved As in Biology and Mathematics and Bs in Chemistry and Extended Project Qualification and progressed to the University of Sheffield to study Medicine.

"I've had a good experience at Barnsley Sixth Form College and would recommend studying here. The staff are really supportive and make sure they are looking after you as a person as well as making sure you are on-track academically."

Former Horizon Community College pupil

Eleanor Hadfield

Achieved A*s in Film Studies and Sociology, As in Drama and Psychology and progressed to Aberystwyth University to study Theatre Studies and Theatre Design.

"I enjoyed having the freedom to regulate my own work and specialise in subjects that I enjoy. I would recommend the College to others as it is friendly and supportive with a wide range of courses."

Former Horizon Community College pupil



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Keegan Rimmington

Achieved an A* in Mathematics and A in Computer Science, Further Mathematics and Extended Project Qualification and progressed to the University of Warwick to study Maths and Computer Science.

"I enjoyed my time at Barnsley Sixth Form College and would definitely recommend it to others. I chose to study here as I had a gut feeling it was the best place for me, the staff treat students really well and the campus is really spacious."

Former Crofton Academy pupil



**CLASS
OF
2019**

Dr Lawrence Ndamka

Performance and Aerothermal Systems Engineer

"I moved to the UK from Cameroon with no family or knowledge of the local culture. From the outset, I received support and guidance at Barnsley Sixth Form College. This instilled a sense of community spirit in me and the Sixth Form gave me the opportunity and the foundation to be where I am today."

After studying A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Physics, Lawrence gained an Engineering degree from Sheffield Hallam University and a PhD in Advanced Materials from Cranfield University. He joined the Corporate Surface Engineering Group (CoSEG) at Rolls-Royce in 2013 and is now a Technical Lead for Rolls Royce's Trent XWB-97 and XWB-97 CI engines.



ALUMNI



OPEN DAYS
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

Thursday 30 January
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Politics

This course is an award of EDEXCEL

We don't always like politicians and the things that governments do, but the business of politics touches every aspect of our lives.

Whilst we might criticise governments for some of their policies, it has to be better than having no government at all. But no matter whether a government makes you feel angry or reassured, it's worth having knowledge of how the whole process of an elected government works and an understanding of the theories that inform the processes and institutions that govern us. A Level Politics enables you to develop critical thinking skills and enhance your ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics.

Subject content

In the first year of Politics, students study three main themes. The first theme is UK Politics which covers issues such as how voting behaviour is changing in elections and what the purpose of political parties are in the UK. The second theme of study is UK Government. This covers issues such as what parliament's role is in the UK political system and whether we have an increasingly presidential style of government. The third theme is Political Ideas where we study Socialism, Liberalism, Conservatism and an optional ideology such as Feminism or Nationalism. In this topic, students study the ideas that inform political parties and institutions with a particular focus on the key thinkers.

The second year focuses on one main topic – Global Politics. This exciting and relevant subject will place British politics in a global context and enable students to better understand political institutions in a globalised world and the implications of recent issues such as Brexit. Students will develop their understanding of existing world powers like the USA and emerging world powers, such as China, and their role in shaping global politics.

If you want to learn about people power, how government works and how ideas inform actions then this A Level is for you.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English, History or another Humanities subject.

A keen interest in politics and current affairs.

Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as lectures, activities, multimedia, discussion and debate, reading texts which develop political vocabulary, participating in group projects and writing essays in response to stimulus material. Classroom debate is perhaps the most appealing part of this course; informed and independently minded students make this one of the most interesting subjects available, provided that you are keen to learn about the political world.

Assessment

You will be assessed by examination on all content at the end of two years of study.

Progression opportunities

Students who have taken A Level Politics often go on to study a range of subjects in Higher Education including politics, philosophy, sociology, economics, philosophy, politics and economics, journalism, history, geography and business.

Politics provides a range of transferable skills which are desirable to many employers. Students may look forward to a career in politics, research, social policy, local government, the civil service, think tanks, education, journalism, business, international development, the police force and the charity sector.



Meet the
A Level
expert

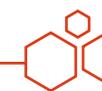
Hannah Paterson

Hannah studied a BSc in Psychology at the University of Leicester and a PGCE at Sheffield Hallam University.

Hannah said: "Most students haven't studied Psychology before they come to College so it's an exciting new subject that can strengthen skills in a range of areas, including analysis, essay writing, maths and science."



Psychology



This course is an award of AQA

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and human experience. A Level Psychology offers an engaging and effective introduction to the field. On this course you will find out about the methods used by psychologists and the theories that underpin their explanations of human behaviour and human interactions with the world. Psychologists apply their theories and explanations to understand different areas of everyday life and this is also a focus for students of A Level Psychology.

Subject content

The content of the course includes approaches and methods related to the core areas of psychology: cognitive, social, biological, developmental, individual differences and research methods, as well as explanations from different theories, along with psychological issues and debates.

In addition, there is the opportunity to see how psychology is applied in real life when we study forensic psychology, stress and relationships.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Mathematics plus GCSE Grade 5 or above in Science.

Assessment

Assessments employ a variety of types of question such as multiple choice, short answer and extended writing/essays which test the skills of knowledge and understanding, application and evaluation.

Progression opportunities

This course develops skills that are useful in a number of jobs and professions including law, business, medicine, journalism, marketing, advertising, personnel work, management and many more. A Level Psychology also enables progression into further study of a wide range of other subjects in Higher Education, such as health, education and social work.

**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm

Saturday 23 November
11.00am to 2.00pm

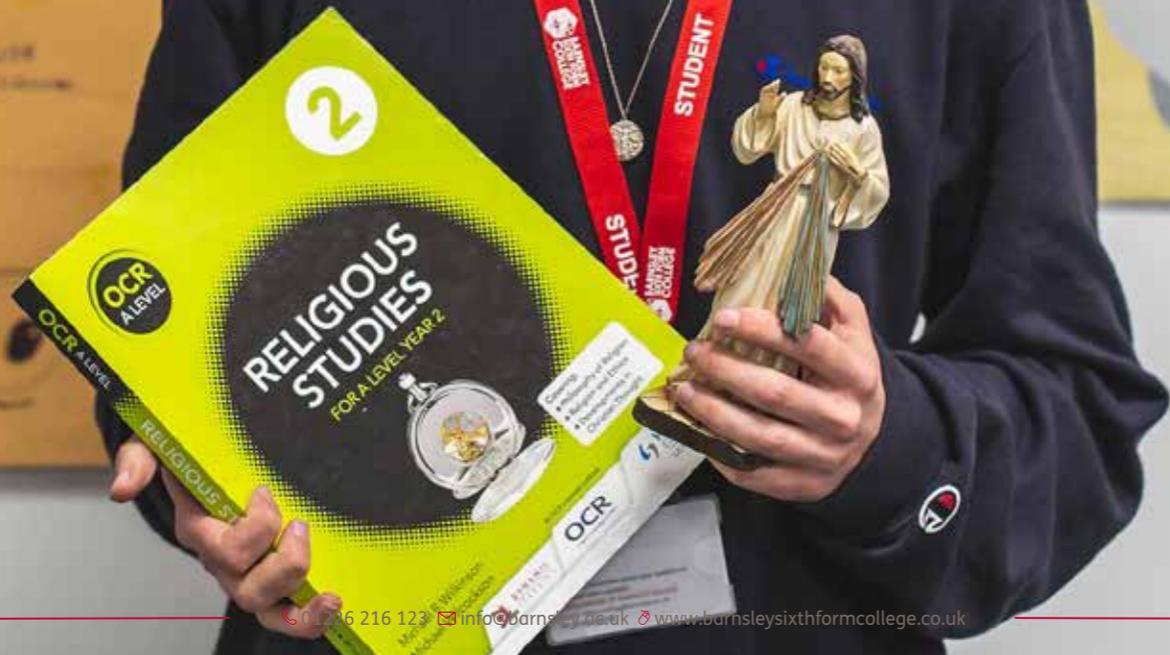
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**OPEN
DAYS**
2019/20

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Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

This course is an award of OCR

In A Level Religion, Philosophy and Ethics you will explore life's 'big questions'.

Philosophers and theologians throughout history have asked questions which still challenge minds today. In this subject you will critically study the nature of reality and explore ethical dilemmas.

Subject content

In the religious strand of the course you will study Christian theology. You will take an academic approach to studying the origins of the Christian tradition and the development of Christian belief. You will study how contemporary Christianity has engaged with modern society, including its responses to feminism, pluralism and secularism.

In philosophy you will study metaphysical questions, such as: Is there a God? Can we trust our senses? Is there an ultimate reality? What is the nature of evil?

In ethics you will study ethical theories and inquire into the nature of human morality. Is there such thing as an objective source of morality? Are we free to make moral decisions? Does the end always justify the means? Are any actions always wrong?

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in either English Language or a Humanities subject (e.g. History, Geography, Sociology).

Assessment

This is an OCR Religious Studies qualification with three examinations at the end of two years.

Progression opportunities

Students studying this subject at A Level often go on to study history, theology, philosophy and other related humanities subjects in Higher Education.

Students may go onto careers in teaching, journalism, medicine, ministry, social work, politics and many more.

Famous students of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics include Martin Luther King, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Ricky Gervais, David Cameron and Ed Miliband.



Meet the
A Level
expert

Derren Smith

Derren has a BA (Hons) degree in Sociology from the University of Sheffield and a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University. She studied her A Levels at Barnsley Sixth Form College.

Derren said: "In Sociology you will explore an important range of social issues and learn how to approach them from different perspectives. Studying the subject at A Level will strengthen your skills in readiness for progression on to university, including essay writing, evaluation and analysis."

OPEN DAYS
2019/20

Wednesday 16 October
4.00pm to 7.00pm
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Sociology



This course is an award of AQA

A Level Sociology provides an exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the world around you and reflect on social issues that are often relevant to your own experiences.

It opens up opportunities for frequent and fascinating discussions, considering questions like:

What impact do digital forms of communication have on social relationships?

How do sociologists investigate inequality in society?

What are the patterns and trends of crime in relation to social class?

Course content

You will acquire detailed theoretical knowledge and a critical understanding of social processes and changes. You will be able to develop a broad set of essential academic skills that are valued by universities and employers, including the ability to analyse and formulate clear logical arguments and evaluate using a range of theoretical perspectives.

In the first year you will study Culture and Identity and the Sociology of Education. You will explore how culture has traditionally shaped our identity and how in a globalised world we increasingly construct our own identities through consumer choices. You will then deepen your sociological understanding through in-depth study of the role of education in society and how inequalities of class, gender and ethnicity affect educational achievement. You will also learn how to carry out sociological research and how to apply those skills in the context of education.

In the second year you will deepen your theoretical understanding of sociology and research skills, alongside the study of Crime and Deviance and Beliefs in Society. This will engage you in debates about which social groups commit more crime and why, as well as ways of tackling the problem of crime in society. You will then explore the role of religion in society and how it contributes to social change. This will include the debate between science and religion and the changing levels of participation in religious practice in modern society.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in English, History or another Humanities subject.

Assessment

This course uses the AQA exam board and is a linear A Level. You will be assessed by examination on all content at the end of your two years of study.

Progression opportunities

The skills acquired whilst studying A Level Sociology are highly relevant and transferable to a wide number of Higher Education courses such as history, geography, English, law, politics, business, philosophy, media studies, journalism, social work, nursing and criminology.

Sociology students often go on to careers in teaching, law, research, politics, the police force and probation services, counselling, events management and business.



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Spanish



This course is an award of AQA

This course will help you develop your knowledge of the Spanish language and your understanding of Spanish culture and society through the study of authentic and current articles, modern literary texts and films. The study of Spanish at A Level will enable you to develop excellent communication and critical thinking skills, explore a wide range of topics about Spanish contemporary society and give you the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

Course content

Year one aims to develop grammatical structures to a high level of accuracy and complexity. It will cover three topics in which you will develop a wealth of useful vocabulary and fluent phrases, and the confidence to speak, write, read and listen to Spanish. Theme one will be Changes in Spanish Society and theme two will be Artistic and Political Culture in Spanish-speaking countries. You will also conduct a literary study of a film or novel.

In year two you will develop your critical thinking in spoken and written Spanish. You will also undertake an independent research project on an issue of your choice. You will continue to study themes one and two and also study two more central themes, together with a further literary text or film. Theme three is Immigration and Multicultural Society in Spain and theme four is The Period of Franco's Dictatorship and Democratic Transition.

Specific entry requirements

GCSE Grade 5 or above in Spanish.

Learning Methods

You will experience a wide variety of methods of learning, such as paired work and group work on a particular topic, traditional lessons, and individual work such as listening activities, research work on a topic of your choice and literary analysis on a novel or a film. You will practise different skills every lesson, such as speaking, listening, reading and writing.

You will be expected to use websites such as Kerboodle, Languages Online, YouTube and others to support your learning.

To really help you develop your speaking skills and increase your confidence, you will be asked to attend a 30-minute speaking session each week, either on an individual basis or in a small group.

Assessment

Assessment is by examination.

Paper 1 is a listening, reading and translation paper which will assess the topics covered during the course (40% of qualification).

Paper 2 is a writing paper which will assess the texts and/or film studied during the course (30% of qualification).

Paper 3 is the speaking exam which assesses the individual research project and one of the four topics studied (30% of qualification).

Progression opportunities

This course is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study in Higher Education. There are many courses at university where you can combine languages with another subject, for example business, law, teaching or travel and tourism. Knowledge of a foreign language will definitely improve your job prospects and career opportunities. Employers value language skills highly and language graduates are always sought-after.



Core Maths



This course is an award of AQA

Core Maths is a newly developed one-year qualification, carrying the same number of UCAS points as an AS Level. This Level 3 certificate in Mathematical Studies is beneficial to students in maintaining their mathematical skills from GCSE and developing these skills further.

It supports students well for progression to future study or employment that requires skills in quantitative reasoning and critical analysis.

Many students have found the style of Core Maths has given them a new insight into the subject and they have enjoyed seeing how maths can be applied in a wide range of meaningful contexts, either relating to their other A Level courses or in everyday situations such as personal finance.

Course content

The skills developed in the study of mathematics are increasingly important in the workplace and in Higher Education; studying Core Maths will help you keep up these essential skills. Most students who study maths after GCSE improve their career choices and increase their earning potential.

The course has been designed to maintain and develop real-life maths skills. Unlike A Level Maths, where there is an emphasis on algebra and purely abstract mathematical thought, with Core Maths the focus is instead on using maths in real contexts, such as interpreting data from the media and personal finance. The emphasis on problem solving and modelling supports the study of other A Level subjects – in particular, Business, Economics, Geography, PE, Psychology and Science.

Entry requirements

You will need to have a Grade 5 or above in GCSE Maths to be accepted onto the course. Students with a Grade 4 will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

This course is unique as it is a one-year qualification, meaning that you can study Core Maths in Year 12 or Year 13. Since Core Maths is designed to support the study of other A Level subjects, it is studied alongside your A Levels, meaning that it is taken as a fourth subject.

Learning methods

You will explore Core Maths by discussion and group work as well as independent research and technology using computers and spreadsheets.

Assessment

This is a one-year qualification with two exams at the end (no coursework). Each exam is 1 hour 30 minutes.

Paper 1 – Compulsory content: analysis of data, finance, estimation and critical analysis of given data and models.

Paper 2 – Either Statistical Techniques (probability, the normal distribution, correlation and regression) or Critical Paths and Risk Analysis (critical path analysis, expectation and cost benefit analysis).

Progression

Core Maths plays a vital role, not only supporting students with the mathematical content in their other subjects but providing an opportunity for students to continue with their mathematical study in situations when A Level Mathematics may not be appropriate.



Meet the
A Level
expert

Martin Hickman

Since graduating from the University of East Anglia with a degree in Mathematics, Martin has worked in several colleges throughout the UK, teaching a wide range of maths qualifications.

Martin said: "We believe this course improves students' life skills, supports their study of other subjects and, perhaps most importantly, gives them an opportunity to enjoy and challenge themselves with further mathematical study."

Extended Project Qualification - Level 3

This course is an award of EDEXCEL

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) provides students with the opportunity to explore a topic that interests them. The EPQ has no exams, just coursework, and you'll need to be self-motivated and enjoy working independently.

You will learn skills that are highly valued in Higher Education, such as research, developing arguments, and organisation and presentation skills.

The EPQ carries UCAS points and is highly regarded by many universities. It can't be used against a grade offer (such as AAA) but some universities may offer an alternative for candidates studying the EPQ (such as ABB instead of AAB).

Subject content

You can decide what you want to study. With the help of your tutors, you'll choose a topic to explore - it is recommended the topic is one you might like to study in Higher Education, or pursue as a career.

There are four types of project to pick from:

- Write a dissertation.
- Produce an artefact, like a sculpture, model or DVD.
- Develop and showcase a performance (sport, drama or music).
- Conduct an investigation/field study.

Examples of previous projects:

- Do violent computer games contribute to anti-social behaviour?
- What are the effects of terrorism on society?
- Is climate change everyone's responsibility?
- Is it ethical to genetically engineer babies for designer purposes?



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James Wheeler

Achieved a B in Geography and Cs in Biology and Economics and progressed to a Signal Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship at Network Rail.

"I had a lot more independence at Sixth Form College than I did at school and was able to do things off my own bat rather than being told what to do. The supportive environment at the College helped me achieve my grades."

Former Hinde House School pupil

Laura Walker

Solicitor

"Barnsley Sixth Form College opened a lot of doors for me. When applying to college I had three A Level subjects in mind and the staff helped me choose Law as the fourth. I loved the course; it was by far my favourite subject and that's where my journey to becoming a Solicitor started."

After A Levels in Law, Media and Sociology at Barnsley Sixth Form College, Laura achieved a 2:1 LLB (Hons) Law degree at Nottingham Trent University and completed a Legal Practice Course at Nottingham Law School. She is now a Medical Negligence Solicitor.

Former Ecclesfield School pupil



Entry Requirements

We generally ask for a GCSE point score of 5 or above to study a two-year A Level programme. This will ideally include a 5 or above in English and maths. If you have a GCSE point score between 4 and 5 you can access certain A Level subjects.

We are confident that we have a range of A Level courses that will get you to university. We will discuss entry requirements with you at interview so please come and talk to us!

Your average GCSE score will include the Grades for all your GCSE subjects, added together, then divided by the number of subjects you've taken.

See the example below to work out your average GCSE point score.

Subject	Grade
English Language	6
English Literature	6
Maths	6
Science Trilogy	7, 8
History	5
Spanish	5
P.E	4
Art	5
Total	52
Average point score	5.7

To work out the average GCSE point score from the example above, divide the total Grade score of 52 by the number of subjects studied which is 9, to give an average GCSE point score of 5.7.

ACCESS TO A LEVELS

Students who do not initially meet the entry requirements for their chosen subjects on leaving school can enrol to Access to A Levels, our three-year A Levels programme.

To study our three-year A Level programme you need to have achieved a minimum of five GCSEs at Grade 4.

For more information on Access to A Levels, visit www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/access

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Application FAQs

You can apply online at: www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/how-to-apply

Alternatively, there are two other ways to apply. You can apply via your school's application system or you can complete the attached application form by filling in ALL relevant sections clearly in black ink and return to:

FE Admissions
Barnsley Sixth Form College
PO Box 266
Church Street
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 2YW

IMPORTANT

It is important that you provide a telephone number so we can contact you about your application form if we need to.

REMEMBER

If your details change after you have completed the form you need to tell us.

Contact the Admissions team on **01226 216 106** or email interviews@barnsley.ac.uk

When should I apply?

You can apply for the courses of your choice from the beginning of October 2019. The earlier you apply, the better, as it gives you the opportunity of an early interview.

What happens next?

Your application will be acknowledged. You will then be sent an interview date and will receive important information by post, including financial support and travel information.

What happens at interview?

The interview is a meeting between yourself and a tutor. It's an opportunity to get more detailed course information and help you decide if A Levels are the right choice for you.

Can I change my mind?

Yes, there is no formal commitment at this stage. If you'd like to change your choice of A Levels just call us on the number below.

Can I apply for a vocational course as well as A Levels?

Initially, you are welcome to apply for both A Levels and

vocational courses. However, you will later need to decide whether to study A Levels or a vocational course as the two cannot be studied together.

You can apply for a vocational course online at www.barnsley.ac.uk/apply

Alternatively, you can complete a vocational application form which can be found in the Barnsley College vocational course guide or apply via your school's application system.

What happens if I don't get the right grades?

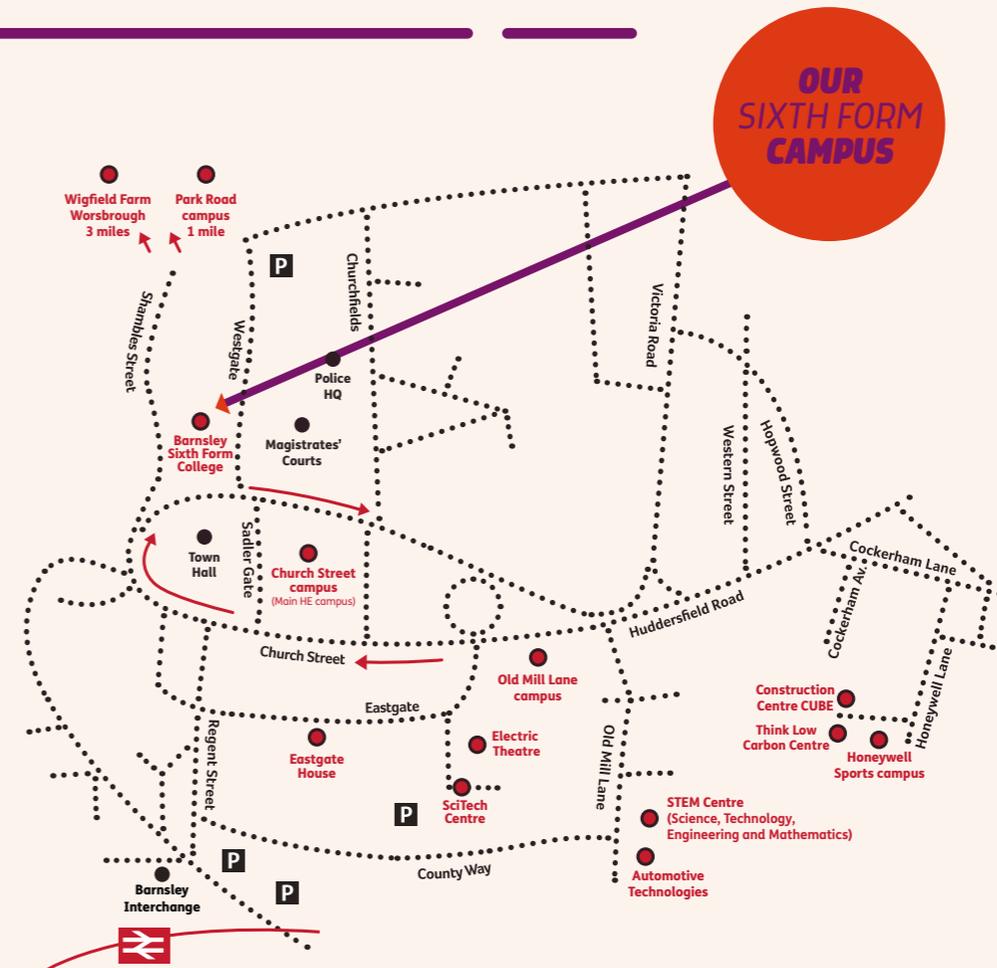
Don't panic! We have a place for you. Contact our Information Team on the number below and they will advise you on what to do.

Want some more information?

Come along to one of our Open Days, speak to an Information Adviser in school, come into College and see our Information Team on the ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus or call them on the number below. You can visit or contact us as many times as you need to.

Admissions Team **01226 216 106** interviews@barnsley.ac.uk

How to find us



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Postal address:

Barnsley Sixth Form College
St Mary's Place
Barnsley
S70 2SR

01226 216 123

info@barnsley.ac.uk

www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk



Follow us on Facebook, Instagram
and Twitter

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Barnsley
South Yorkshire
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✉ info@barnsley.ac.uk

🌐 www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk



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and Twitter

